



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 44th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2017

JUNE 2017

Volume 26 - Issue 6

General Meeting and Program — Thursday, June 8, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln

Community Conservation

Making Land Protection Relevant in the Communities Where It Occurs

by Dave Sands, Executive Director, Nebraska Land Trust

When permanent land conservation is achieved through conservation easements purchased with public funds, it is critical to prioritize opportunities so funds are spent on projects with the highest conservation value. But instead of telling people what WE want to protect, the Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) seeks local input to make our work more relevant in the communities where it occurs. This is accomplished by forming a local advisory committee that includes farmers and ranchers who are asked, "What makes YOUR region special? What would YOU hate to lose? What are YOUR conservation values? How would YOU prioritize those values?" At the end of the process, Community Conservation produces transparent, sound project scoring criteria that pave the way for locally supported, quality, and sustainable land protection efforts.



Dave Sands

This process has proven itself in the Pine Ridge, where the NLT has now scored 11 properties over two years, totaling 13,500 acres! Currently, conservation easements are being pursued on more than 5,000 of those acres. With approval of a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant in 2017, the NLT is now organizing a Community Conservation initiative to permanently protect more land in the Lower Platte River Valley.

As Wachiska's June speaker, **Dave Sands** will discuss the importance, process, and benefits of seeking local input in land protection, including the scoring criteria created by the Pine Ridge Advisory Committee and will show slides of the beautiful properties they are working to protect.

Dave is a long-time friend and colleague of Wachiska. To quote him as this article is being written, "If it wasn't for Wachiska, I wouldn't be gainfully employed in conservation today."

Born and raised in Lincoln, Dave Sands earned a journalism degree from Northwestern University in 1976. He returned to Lincoln in 1977 to help run a third-generation family business.

Dave's experience in conservation dates to 1983, when the governor appointed him to serve on the state's Environmental Quality Council, which he later chaired. In 1997, Sands traded a 20-year career in business for a new one in conservation, by becoming the first executive director of Audubon Nebraska. In this capacity, he worked with Kathie O'Brien to preserve her ranch near Lincoln and protect its rare tallgrass prairie from development. Ultimately, her land became what is known as Audubon Spring Creek Prairie.

In 2003, Sands accepted an opportunity to work with conservation-minded landowners on a full-time basis by becoming the first executive director of the Nebraska Land Trust. The organization works with landowners and other organizations with an interest in the conservation of agricultural, historical, and natural resources on private land.

Join Wachiska Audubon on **Thursday, June 8, at 7:00 p.m.** for this free public presentation at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, in Lincoln. Park in the church lot; there is overflow parking in the Pius High lot across the street to the west. Close, easy access to the church includes no steps to climb. There is plenty of space inside for mingling while enjoying refreshments and conversation following the program.

Calendar

June

- 5 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 8 General Meeting, "Community Conservation,"
by Dave Sands, Unitarian Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Field Trip to Loess Hills, 7:00 a.m. (page 2)
- 12 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 **28th annual Backyard Garden Tour** (pages 4-5)
- 20 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Exploring Iowa's "Front Range"

Iowa's Loess Hills jut up dramatically from the eastern edge of the Missouri River's flood plain. They were deposited after glaciers from the last Ice Age advanced as far as eastern Nebraska grinding rock into "glacial flour" that was piled into massive sand dunes before becoming the hills we see today. On our June field trip we'll access this scenic area from the Glenwood Archaeological State Preserve in Iowa just southeast of Omaha and hike the trails to see what birds we'll encounter during prime breeding season.

Meet on **Sunday, June 11, at 7:00 a.m.** at the State Capitol in Lincoln, at 15th and H streets across from the governor's mansion. Recommended items to bring include water bottle, insect repellent, and binoculars if you have them. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

April's Field Trip Report

by John Carlini and Shari Schwartz

The cascading song of a Yellow-throated Warbler greeted the six birders in attendance at the Krimlovsky Tract bottomlands of Neale Woods for April's field trip. During our long but successful chase for a visual of this southeastern Nebraska warbler through his territory of mostly cottonwood trees, we heard a second Yellow-throated Warbler in a sycamore stand nearby. Other highlights included a Broad-winged Hawk that flushed and a nice look at a Red-tailed Hawk sitting on a nest. After our walk in through the bottomlands, we tried for the Louisiana Waterthrushes that raised a family in the adjacent uplands last season, but they were too sneaky and escaped our detection even though they were seen there two days earlier.



Yellow-throated Warbler

(Editor's Note: A full recap of bird species seen during Birdathon Weekend May 13-14 will appear in July's Babbling Brook.)

Bird

by Richard Peterson

"Bird"—where, you're wondering, is he going with this article. A bird is a bird, right? Well, I was wondering . . .

But let me start at the beginning. I was at home the other day watching a British movie and the word "bird" was used in a way that I was perfectly acquainted. As things happen, it got me thinking. I became curious as to the many ways the word has been and is currently being used to describe the world around us. I can tell your minds are racing and trying to remember the ways you have used words that include "bird."

But first, the definition of the word according to Merriam-Webster is: "a class (Aves) of warm-blooded vertebrates distinguished by having the body more or less covered with feathers and the forelimbs modified as wings." But in what other context do we see the word?

There are the other words, however, that include "bird" as a way to describe something usually having to do with birds, including: birdbath, birdcage, bird-call, bird-dog, birder, birdhouse, birdie, birdlime, bird louse, birdman, bird of paradise, bird of prey, birdseed, bird's-foot trefoil, bird's-eye primrose, bird's-eye speedwell, bird cherry, bird's-nest soup, bird watcher, and I'll bet you can think of others.

Then there are those where the word "bird" is used to convey something entirely different:



that bird is fine! – usually a reference to an attractive female

flip the bird – to raise the middle finger towards a person, as an offensive gesture

a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush – something you have now is worth more than two things you have a small chance of getting

a little bird told me – a person who I will not disclose told me . . .

bird-brain – a silly, light-minded, or unintelligent person

the birds and the bees – sex and sexuality

early bird – one who wakes up early in the day

for the birds – worthless or displeasing

night bird – a police helicopter that flies around with a spotlight

bird colonel – the eagle on the rank insignia for a full colonel

bird of passage – a person who leads a wandering or unsettled life

bird pepper – a capsicum having very small, oblong, extremely pungent red fruit

birds-eye – an eye-catching spot in finished wood surrounded with an ellipse of concentric fibers (as in birds-eye maple)

bird-dog – one who steals another person's date (as at a party)

bird farm – an aircraft carrier

birds of a feather – people who are alike in some way. Aren't we all, really?





From the Board ...

by Jessie Umberger
Immediate Past President

LB449 is the most current bill aiming to repeal the Black-tailed Prairie Dog Management Act which was passed in 2012. The act authorizes county governments to create and enforce their own prairie dog management plans. Currently, Sheridan County is the only Nebraska county with a plan in place; more information can be found at http://www.sheridancountyne.com/prairie_dog_plan.php.



The current plan requires a landowner to prevent the expansion of black-tailed prairie dog colonies to adjacent property if the owner of the adjacent property objects to prairie dog expansion. If the

landowner objects to prevention, government officials are allowed to come onto private property to manage the prairie dog population and then send the landowner the bill.

The Black-tailed Prairie Dog is a native species. No other native species is required by law to be controlled.

LB449 will not come up for vote until 2018; however, we realize the importance of starting a discussion early.

So what can you do? First, educate yourself on the pros and cons of having prairie dogs of Nebraska. Read about LB449 and the Prairie Dog Management Act. A quick fact: "These colonies still create unique patches of habitat in extensive grasslands. These patches are used by an abundance of creatures such as Burrowing Owls, Ferruginous Hawks, Mountain Plovers, and Horned Larks. Over 200 species have been associated with prairie dog towns." (Prairie Dogs and Their Control, Hygnstrom, Vantassel, Veenendaal, 8/2011)
<http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g2101.pdf>.

Next, contact your state senator. Write a letter or call the office. Check www.nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_list.php. (Also see *Public Officials contact information on page 7 of each issue of this newsletter.*)

In addition, Senator Ernie Chambers is heavily involved with this issue. You can call his office, 402-471-2612, or write to him at:

Senator Ernie Chambers
District 11 Room 1302
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

If you would like a sample letter, please contact me at jessi.umberger@gmail.com. No matter your opinion, it is important to be involved in the issues going on around us. Wachiska submitted a letter of support for LB449 which has been entered into the public record.

Bug-Off

by Richard Peterson

There is no way to prevent insect bites 100 percent of the time. Unfortunately, some people, no matter how hard they try, are more likely to get bitten. Which topical bug repellent you choose must be weighed against the risk of contracting yellow fever, malaria, Lyme disease, encephalitis, Zika, and a long list of other health problems.

DEET – Developed at the end of World War II, it was first used by the military in 1946 and by civilians in 1957. DEET gives off a distinctive odor and may damage plastic, vinyl, and rubber. Neurological disorders have been reported, but these are rare. Effectiveness weighed against the risks is the bottom line, and many public health authorities and organizations, including the Centers for Disease Control, Environmental Protection Agency, World Health Organization, and the American Academy of Pediatrics endorse its use. Higher concentrations do not increase efficacy and could increase side effects. DEET 20 -30 percent is recommended.

IR3535 – Developed by Merck and Company in the 1970s, IR3535 has been used in Europe for years. It can be irritating to the eyes, may damage plastic, but has fewer other safety risks. *Consumer Reports* found it worked as well as DEET against deer ticks and the mosquitoes that carry West Nile; however, the 20 percent formulation tested was less effective than DEET against mosquitoes that transmit yellow fever, dengue, and encephalitis. IR3535 is found in Avon products.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus – This is an extract of the eucalyptus trees in Australia. When refined, it's known as PMD. PMD repellents show low toxicity to the user but can be an eye irritant. It arrived on the U.S. market in 2002. It is not recommended when the risk of West Nile is high or against sand flies. Protection time may be less against both mosquitoes and ticks. The CDC advises against using this product on children under three years of age. PMD in a 10 percent formulation is good for the short term and 30 - 40 percent oil of lemon eucalyptus for longer periods.

Picaridin – Developed by Bayer AG in the 1980s, Picaridin has been available in the U.S. since 2005. It is not known to irritate skin and eyes, has no pungent odor, and does not harm plastic. It evaporates from the skin slower than DEET or IR3535. Besides mosquitoes, Picaridin was found to be effective in the laboratory against biting flies and ticks. A 5 - 10 percent formulation is adequate for the short term, and 20 percent is recommended for longer periods of protection.

Your activity level can reduce the effectiveness of these products through evaporation and absorption, and perspiration can wash them off. Wind, rain, and high temperatures are also factors. If you choose the one that smells better, one with a lower risk of a rare problem, or one that won't affect plastic, you are selecting the product for the wrong reasons. Don't bathe yourself in the product, keep your fingers out of your eyes, and follow label directions.

WACHISKA AUDUBON'S

by Anne and Lynn Senkbeil, Committee Co-chairs

Wachiska Audubon's Backyard Garden Tour will once again be held on **Father's Day, Sunday, June 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** For 28 years the most diverse and interesting gardens in Lincoln have been open for the public to see. It was Cicero, the Roman philosopher, who is credited with stating, "If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need." Set aside June 18th to see the great gardens of Lincoln, several which are designed with wildlife habitat in mind.

Home owners will be on hand to answer questions as always. Visitors can start at any location. Maps and brochures are available at each site. A donation of \$7 is suggested and children under 12 are free. The tour will include the following gardens:

3425 Otoe Street – Linda Hillegass and Jim McKee

This pie-shaped lot has a large backyard for enjoying the birds. A very large red oak, half a dozen crabapple trees, a hackberry, and several yews provide cover for the birds. The yard also features many viburnums, including Rusty Blackaw, Winterthur, Judd, Mariesil, Arrowwood, Trilobum, and Allegheny. Water is provided year-round, and a number of birdfeeders are kept stocked throughout the year. All of this results in great numbers of birds which, in the winter, Linda and Jim find more interesting than television. The yard also includes many flowers, mostly perennials.



Baltimore Oriole



Pair of Mallards

6832 Deerwood Drive – Terri and Ted Lannan

The backyard started out as a sterile water-eating bluegrass nightmare. The first year most of the sod was dug up, three large pine trees were brought in, and a pond was dug with a stream and a waterfall. The grass areas have given way to perennials, ponds, rock gardens, and wildlife habitat. There are three water features (with 100 feet of stream and a bog area), several large deciduous and pine trees, fruit trees, grapes on an arbor, and many bushes planted for their berries. Bird feeders and several types of houses abound, with special plantings and feeders for hummingbirds. A pair of mallards visits in the spring. Last year they made daily visits for over six weeks to play in the pond and eat the corn left for them. They became tame and stayed while the homeowners worked in the yard.

1220 Rose Street – Steven Dean and Jeremy Simonsen

Landscaping began with annuals, moving on to various perennials and shrubs. This garden features hostas and hydrangeas situated on both sides of the gate, as do miniature crabapple trees. A waterfall sits near a Larch, Weeping Beach, and several Rose of Sharon on one side, while a Weeping Sweet Pea, Japanese Maple, and Oak Leaf Hydrangeas are shaded by the Burr Oak tree. You will notice another hydrangea opposite a Weeping Mulberry and Birch tree as you enter the backyard. A Contorted Black Locust in the middle of the yard is surrounded by boxwoods. Wisteria climbs the pergola from one side with trumpet vine on the other. The pond has a bog with a larger waterfall. Weeping Blue Spruce frame a waterfall and a Weeping Pussy Willow sits in the opposite corner. Penny Wort, Creeping Jenny, and Donkey Tail soften the edges of the pond while water lilies provide cover for the Koi. Birds are frequently seen bathing in the bog.



Clematis



Rose

1428 C Street – George Spicha

This perennial garden was designed by Judy Gerlich. It has matured with time and Mother Nature. It has a profusion of color and scent, spring to fall, and is a wonderful attraction for birds, bees, and butterflies. Featured are many varieties of daffodils, tulips, lilies, hosta, clematis, and peonies with many bushes including roses, spirea, and lilacs. This garden needs very little water and no mowing.

28th Annual Backyard Tour



Hydrangea

7135 Englewood Drive – Diane Tharnish and Dan Holland

Diane and Dan have a wide variety of garden plants, which provide a friendly habitat for birds and wildlife in their backyard. There is a terraced retaining wall and pondless waterfall with a patio. The plants consist of several spring blooming bulbs, azaleas, hydrangeas, hostas, and several other varieties of plants. Bird visitors are blue jays, cardinals, wrens, finches, orioles, woodpeckers, and owls.

2031 Surfside Drive – Cindy and Frank Wimmer

With a lot of hard work and love these homeowners now have a haven for wildlife that comes to take advantage of Capitol Beach Lake across the street. On a large lot they have built a Koi pond, a gazebo, a small bridge, and many other structures. This yard is packed with many annual and perennial plants and shrubs. There are also many antique finds in seating areas with bird baths, bird houses, and many bird feeders.

1690 Pawnee Street – Leroy and Julie Monroe

Leroy and Julie started gardening five years ago. They developed a love for tropical plants, especially Banana plants. Every year they incorporate something new. They also like to make their yard animal and bird friendly.

14th and Lake Street – RhizoCity Farms, Skylar Falter and Matt Pirog

RhizoCity Farms is an urban gardening project dedicated to transforming under-utilized urban spaces into bountiful gardens. This vacant lot turned urban garden is a sanctuary for vegetables, native plants, soil diversity, beneficial insects, and community engagement. As a “no tractor farm,” soil health ranks first in order to cultivate highly productive and nutritious food. Visit rhizocity.com for more information.



Blue Jay



Stransky Park

17th and Harrison Avenue – Stransky Park

Stransky Park was conceived and designed by Leonard and Angeleen Stransky as part of a \$1.5 M donation to the Lincoln Parks Foundation. It is their thank you to Lincolniters for their patronage of the neighborhood grocery stores the Stransky's operated from the 1950s to the '70s. The park is nestled in the Irvingdale neighborhood and features a manmade mountain with a three-tier waterfall, a big gazebo, and a fenced playground.

The park is one of the most visited small parks in Lincoln. It is the chosen space for weddings and is the home of the Stransky Park Concert Series, created by volunteers of the Irvingdale Neighborhood Association. This annual summer event has been played by hundreds of local musicians, and is a tradition now carried on by KZUM, Lincoln's community radio station, on Thursday evenings from May 25 to August 3.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird



Backyard Garden Tour Site



Northern Cardinal

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Looking for some summer reading? Here's a suggestion. First, though, I should credit Bruce Johnson for telling me about *Getting to Green: Saving Nature, a Bipartisan Solution* by Frederic C. Rich. Published by Norton a year ago, it is now getting attention from Audubon and other green groups. Mr. Rich likes Audubon, by the way.

As he says in the prologue, Rich spent three decades "as a Wall Street lawyer at the heart of global capitalism" putting together financing agreements. He is the vice chair of the Washington, D.C.-based national Land Trust Alliance and chair of the Scenic Hudson Land Trust. So it's not surprising to hear that he asks the environmental movement to stop attacking capitalism, or that he thinks the key to changing national level political dynamics is found at the local level—with people's commitment to the wellbeing of a particular place.

The premise of *Getting to Green* is that environmentalists must find a way to welcome back moderate Republicans because "the Green agenda advances when and only when supported by a bipartisan consensus sufficient to break through partisan gridlock and produce action." Too difficult? His answer: "We have no choice but to try."

The book asks what happened to the strong bipartisan consensus about the importance of federal protection of clean air and clean water that we saw when 20 million people were in the streets for the first Earth Day in 1970. How do we rebuild bipartisanship so that we can get something done at the federal level—on climate change or almost anything else branded "environmental"? Rich offers a careful history and thoughtful advice for the future.

This is an important and hopeful book. For me, the most hopeful part is the discussion of shared values. Following a quote from Edmund Burke, Rich writes, "This is the most fundamental premise of principled conservatism. . . We are not the "entire masters of the Earth, entitled to 'commit waste on the inheritance.'" We must not leave to those who come after [us with] a planet that is "a ruin instead of a habitation." The principle that gave conservatism its name is the same one that gave conservation its name. . .The conservative takes the long view of society and believes he or she has a duty to limit present consumption with a view to the interests of future generations."

Hey, great, I can work with that!

On climate, Mr. Rich supports a carbon tax, but also writes that federal legislation "may be possible someday, but it is not possible now." However, after describing a "center green" position to be put forward on climate, he asks whether, if offered this approach, the GOP might "make a U-turn and change its position?" His answer: "Actually, it might." As the Tea

Party's influence weakens, he writes, "the GOP as a whole will swing dramatically back toward support for pragmatic action in relation to climate."

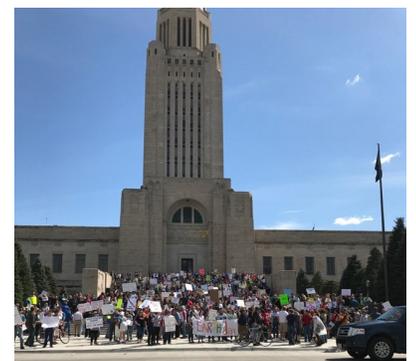
A Senate vote in early May might be called a small, but dramatic, swing. Three Republicans changed the outcome of a vote so that regulations will stay in effect to limit venting, flaring, and leaking of methane emissions on federal lands by oil and natural gas drillers. Everybody called the vote "unexpected."

Earth Day Recap

by Colleen Babcock, Chair
Population/Environment Committee

On Earth Day at Union Plaza April 22, a continuous flow of enthusiastic children and adults stopped at the Wachiska table to make bee houses. Thanks to the following Population and Environment Committee members and Earth Day volunteers who helped during the four-hour period: Barb Francis, Chuck Francis, Mary King, Patty Spitzer, Amy Swoboda, Ingrid Kirst, Rachel Simpson, Jim Keen, Theresa Pella, and Colleen Babcock. Additional thanks to Barb and Chuck Francis for creating the "Buzz About Bees" display. 

While many environmental organizations were represented, Wachiska's table was visited by many due to the "hands-on" activities provided. This is shown in our photos below.



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
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E-mail at website: <http://sasse.senate.gov>

Senator Deb Fischer

440 N 8th St Ste 120, Lincoln NE 68508
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301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508-2537
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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
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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 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
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E-mail: commish@lancaster.ne.gov

Mayor Chris Beutler

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 208, Lincoln NE 68508-2828
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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 _____

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

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

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

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

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



American Goldfinch family

Titillating Tidbit

Watch Wachiska's forthcoming summer issues of *The Babbling Brook* for a spectacular announcement about our prairie project. Details are being firmed up for later in the summer. You'll have plenty of notice to be able to participate.



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Backyard Tour ~ Father's Day

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2017

OFFICERS

President.....	*Gary Fehr.....	402-570-4382
Vice President.....	*Stu Luttich (Geneva).....	402-759-3597
Recording Secretary	*Rachel Simpson.....	402-570-7471
Treasurer	*Bill Gustafson.....	402-488-1585
Immediate Past President.....	*Jessi Umberger (Otoe).....	402-580-3057

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*Lana Novak	402-475-8693
Director at Large.....	*Richard Peterson	402-489-2996
Director at Large.....	*Roxanne Smith	402-477-1319
Conservation.....	*Stu Luttich (Geneva)	402-759-3597
Education	Sue Kohles (Palmyra).....	402-780-5558
	*Tim Knott.....	402-483-5656
Field Trips.....	John Carlini	402-475-7275
	*Ken Reitan	402-423-3540
Hospitality.....	Cheryl Moncure.....	402-488-0036
Legislation	Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm).....	402-796-2114
	*Sam Truax	402-325-9012
Membership	*Jami Nelson	402-488-1598
Monthly Programs/General Meetings	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
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Publicity/Public Relations.....	Jeanne Kern	402-423-0428

*Denotes Board member

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Bird Questions	Kevin Poague	402-797-2301
Facebook Coordinator	Benjamin Vogt	402-499-5851
Raptor Recovery	Betsy Finch (Elmwood).....	402-994-2009
Interim Executive Director Audubon Nebraska	Bill Taddicken	308-468-5282
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director	Glynnis Collins	402-797-2301
Webmaster	Dan Staehr	402-440-5869

NEBirds Website

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

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

A Gift to the Future

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