



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 46th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2019

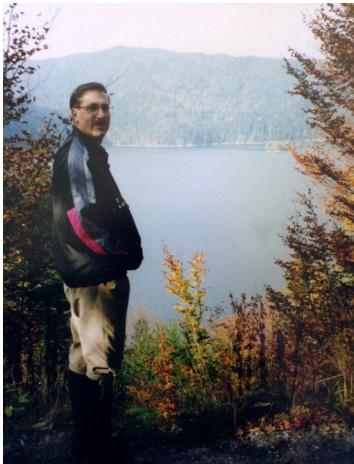
AUGUST 2019

Volume 28 - Issue 8

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

Boy Scouts' Hornaday Award - An Olympic Medal Bestowed by the Earth

by James Hoke, PhD



Dr. James Hoke

Conservation and the Boy Scouts of America have been partners for a long time. Respect for the outdoors is a part of the Scouting heritage. Many of the requirements for advancement to Eagle Scout call for an increasing awareness and understanding of the natural sciences. Currently, Scouts are involved in learning about environmental problems and actively working to make a difference. This award program was created to recognize those

who have made significant contributions to conservation.

The award program was begun in 1914 by Dr. William Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological Park and founder of the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. He named the award the

Wildlife Protection Medal. Its purpose was to challenge Americans to work constructively for wildlife conservation and habitat protection. After his death in 1937, the award was renamed in Dr. Hornaday's honor and became a Boy Scouts of America award. In the early 1970s, the present awards program was established with funding from the DuPont Company. At that time, the late Dr. Hornaday's idea of conservation was broadened to include environmental awareness.

The fundamental purpose of the Hornaday Awards program is to encourage learning by the participants and to increase public awareness about natural resource conservation. Understanding and practicing sound stewardship of natural resources and environmental protection strengthens Scouting's emphasis on respecting the outdoors. The goal of this awards program is to encourage and recognize truly outstanding efforts undertaken by Scouts who have contributed significantly to natural resource conservation and environmental protection.

James Hoke, PhD, a native Lincolnite, is the holder of the Gold Hornaday badge. He is also a Certified Nebraska Master Naturalist and former ecology director of Camp Cornhusker. He will discuss this program at Wachiska's next general meeting.

Join Wachiska and Dr. Hoke on **Thursday, August 8**, at **7:00 p.m.** at Lincoln's Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street. Free parking is available in the church lot with overflow parking in the Pius High School lot across the street to the west. There is easy access to the church with no steps and space for mingling during the refreshment time following this free public presentation.

Calendar

August

- 5 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 8 General Meeting, Hornaday Award, Boy Scouts and conservation by Dr. James Hoke, Unitarian Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 14 Finance Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 20 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G sts., 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Birding and stargazing field trip, 6:30 p.m. (page 2)

Birdseed Sale Information Coming Next Month

September's newsletter will include details for the Fall Birdseed Sale which will take place in mid-October. Tell your birds to hang in there!



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Birdwatching and Stargazing

Our August outing will take us to two sites we haven't previously explored despite their close proximity to Lincoln. The first stop will be at Twin Lakes Wildlife Management Area (WMA) west of town for an early evening hike to check the lakes and perimeter for winged wonders like birds and dragonflies. From there we'll proceed north to the Branched Oak Observatory to attend the monthly star party. This observatory is operated by dedicated volunteers who have created a place to enjoy celestial views without the light pollution of Lincoln or Omaha.

We'll meet at **6:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 24**, on the south side of the State Capitol in Lincoln, across from the governor's mansion on H Street. From there participants can caravan or carpool to our first destination. Those preferring to meet at Twin Lakes WMA can rendezvous with the group shortly before 7:00 at the southeast parking lot next to the east end of the east lake dam. If anyone wants to forego the hike and meet at the Branched Oak Observatory, the star party begins at 9:00 p.m. and the property is located on N.W. 98th Street, a half-mile south of West Raymond Road. Recommended items to bring are insect repellent, a water bottle, and binoculars and spotting scope if you have them. There are no entrance fees required but goodwill donations are greatly appreciated at the observatory. The public is welcome. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

Help Us Harvest Prairie Seed

by Beth Coufal, Conservation Committee

Harvesting prairie seeds is a great way to get out and appreciate the prairies. The necessity of looking closely at the plants and walking over more ground than you would on a hike means noticing things you would not otherwise see. Wild strawberry plants, bobolink nests, the tangerine smell of prairie clover leaves, and ladies' tresses orchids are all treats I would not have ordinarily seen. It is also a good way to learn to identify prairie plants and appreciate the differences in our various habitats. If you would like to join me on one of Wachiska's prairie sites, please email me at bethngaryc@windstream.net, and I will let you know when and where I will be collecting.

No Yard Sale this Fall

Due to lack of interest on the part of Wachiska's Board members at this time, there will not be a fall yard/garage sale this year.

Prairie Discovery Days - Help Needed

by Tim Knott, Education Committee Chair



Dieken Prairie Wildflowers

In early September, the education committee is hosting fourth graders and their teachers from at least two schools in our membership area to participate in Wachiska's

annual Prairie Discovery Days. In the afternoon on September 3, students from Syracuse Elementary will be at Dieken Prairie near Unadilla. On September 5, in the morning, fourth graders from D.C. West Elementary in Valley will be at our prairie near Yutan. Both groups will be learning how to catch and identify insects and basic prairie ecology, practice their writing skills, and learn the tricks that prairie plants use to survive.

In addition to having our committee members there to lead the activities, these fourth graders would benefit from the experience of a few additional adults with a basic familiarity with nature to assist with catching the insects and other simple tasks required of these activities. The kind of education we are doing works best with one adult mentor and just a few students.

If you can help on either day, call me at 402-483-5656 or the office at 402-486-4846. I will provide details, locations, and assurance that we are not looking for experts.

Give to Lincoln Day and Birdathon Updates

by Theresa Pella, Vice President

During the Give to Lincoln Day (GTLD) campaign, donations to the Lincoln Community Foundation in Wachiska's name totaled \$19,433.50. Wachiska finished in the top 100 nonprofit organizations and received \$1,844.11 of the Foundation's match funds for a total of \$21,277.61 (before processing fees). The number of participating nonprofits has increased each year and is now over 400. Once again, Ernie and Audrey Rousek helped Wachiska tremendously by donating \$8,312.50 from last fall's gayfeather seed collection event on their prairie.

Though GTLD is over, Birdathon donations, which began in April, are still being accepted (checks must be made payable to Wachiska) and can be mailed or dropped off at the office. To date, Birdathon donations total \$7,335. Together, GTLD and Birdathon are extremely important annual revenue sources for committee work, organization administration, and prairie management.

Thank you for supporting Wachiska!

Bumble Bee Atlas Project Engages Community Scientists

Nebraska is home to nearly 20 species of bumble bees which are charismatic and easily recognizable, many of which have been affected by the dramatic land use change seen in the Midwest over the last 150 years. A new project provides an opportunity for community scientists to work alongside researchers to better understand the status of Nebraska's bumble bees. The Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas is spearheaded by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Pollinators play an essential role in sustaining the health of our environment by pollinating flowers in natural areas and contributing to successful harvests on farms. In recent years, however, much of the recognition that pollinators have received largely stems from the widespread decline of bees.

Declines of pollinator populations are alarming. Much attention has been given to the plight of the introduced European honeybee; less well publicized, but no less important, is the parallel decline of native, wild bee populations, particularly bumble bees.

While this project will target all bumble bees, there are four species of particular concern that the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has identified as Species of Greatest Conservation Need, which include the western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*), southern plains bumble bee (*Bombus fraternus*), Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus suckleyi*), and variable cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus variabilis*).

The Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas will make use of the North American community-science platform, Bumble Bee Watch, to collect data.

Nebraska has a rich history of publishing bumble bee distribution information going back to the early 1960s. The Bumble Bee Atlas project will build upon this to better understand how bumble bee distributions have changed through time, including in rural areas of the state. Recent information on bumble bee distribution has been focused on places where people live. Gathering information outside of these areas will be key to the success of the project. Doing so will take the cooperation of stakeholders throughout the state and a team of trained volunteers eager to collect the data.

"With much of our state in private ownership, many areas have never been visited to document what bumble bee species exist there," said Doug Golick, associate professor of entomology at UNL. "Who knows? Maybe a community scientist will find a species currently undocumented in Nebraska."

There will be community science volunteer training events throughout the month of August to assist community scientists in connecting with other volunteers while learning about bumble bees and how to contribute to the atlas.

"Because Nebraska is home to so many unique habitats, we also have unique bumble bee communities, with a mix of species found in both the eastern and western United States," said Jennifer Hopwood, senior pollinator conservation specialist, Midwest Region, for the Xerces Society. "Getting a clear understanding of where bumble bees are thriving, as well as documenting the plant species and habitats that are supporting them, will help us better develop evidence-based pollinator conservation plans throughout the state."

Conservation partners throughout Nebraska and beyond look forward to the lasting effects of this project. "Bees and other pollinators serve a very important role in our environment, and monitoring efforts are necessary to better identify the current distribution and population status of Nebraska's at-risk bumble bees," stated Melissa Panella, wildlife diversity program manager for Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. "The Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas is a fantastic opportunity for cooperation with community scientists to help Commission managers make more-informed decisions that will have the greatest positive impact on our bumble bees."

The Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas is funded through a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The Trust is funded by proceeds from the Nebraska Lottery and has awarded more than \$305 million to more than 2,200 conservation projects across Nebraska since 1994.

The Xerces Society will be organizing training workshops to familiarize participants with the Atlas project as well as bumble bee ecology, identification, and conservation. The registration link is here: <https://www.nebraskabumblebeeatlas.org/events.html>.

Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas training in Lincoln will be August 17 on UNL East Campus, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Check out <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=tnejehdab&oeidk=a07egfhw15mcd5da701>.

NEBRASKA
BUMBLE BEE ATLAS

Help protect Nebraska's bumble bees by participating in this new statewide community science project!

Workshop registration is now open!

Omaha: August 3, 2019
Lincoln: August 17, 2019

Sign up: nebraskabumblebeeatlas.org/events

UNIVERSITY OF Nebraska Lincoln The Nebraska Environmental Trust XERCES SOCIETY for Invertebrate Conservation

Wachiska Audubon Board Nominations Open

by Theresa Pella, Vice President

The 2020 nominating committee is in place and ready to accept nominations. Committee members are Patty Spitzer, Linda Brown, Gary Fehr, Theresa Pella, and Stu Luttich.

As reported in the July newsletter, there are four officer positions and three director-at-large positions that the general membership will elect during the annual meeting in November. The bylaws state that candidates must be active Wachiska Friends, and it's always a good idea to get someone's consent before nominating them. You may also nominate yourself. Don't be shy! This is an excellent time to join a dedicated, but lively group as it continues efforts to improve communications, transparency, and prairie management while looking to the future.

Feel free to contact any committee member with questions. Nominee information may be sent to Stu Luttich, president, at rangifer@windstream.net.

Why I Can't Sleep

Blame it on the juncos outside the window.
Sopranos in one tree, altos in another.
Not to mention the tabernacle
Of starlings blaring away on the wire,
And the bands of swallows
And flycatchers pelting the house
With their steady downpour of notes.
And don't forget the chickadees
And those bawdy little tunes
They're belting out from the bushes,
Or the cardinals chortling away
At the feeder as the sun comes up.
I'm going to blame them all.
The larks, the buntings,
Even those bright little prodigies,
The finches, out there as the great door
Of morning swings open, singing
For all their worth on the fence posts,
Pouring their arias out in the maples.

-- Robert Hedin



American Goldfinch



Black-capped Chickadee

Input from Wachiska's Open Forum

by Theresa Pella, Vice President

Twenty-one people attended the June 27th forum to discuss Wachiska's future (another three provided offline input). Though a small crowd, conversations and ideas were free flowing, resulting in much "food for thought." The four input stations—mission, assets, needs, and future (five-year outlook)—were visited by most participants.

As the input was summarized during wrap up, a few themes surfaced:

- Wachiska is blessed with long-term members who are valuable resources. Capturing their stories in a history document would be helpful for newer members and the public to appreciate what it took to build Wachiska and what it will take to retain what Wachiska's pioneers accomplished. Is there a reader who'd like to give this a try?
- Wachiska's solid membership base (National Audubon and Wachiska Friends) is financially committed, but, for unknown reasons, not very involved. As has been stated numerous times, it's also important to seek diverse and younger populations as members.
- Wachiska's mission includes many commitments that participants suggested were still important but raises the question of whether we're stretched too thin or spending resources on opportunities, rather than goals. A short vision statement could be useful to explain what we do to someone unfamiliar with the organization and the larger community.
- An executive director and/or prairie land manager are critical to growth. Staff could help improve coordination efforts with other organizations and support policy and program efforts that volunteers don't have time to do.
- Over the years, through purchases or easements, protecting tallgrass prairies has become an important element of Wachiska. Partnering with similar organizations to share resources to help with prairie management should be pursued.

The Board would like to thank those who took the time to participate in this activity. The input will be used, along with information gathered during the administrative services review and Prairie Conservation Review Committee's efforts, to support future decisions.

Notice

Wachiska is in immediate need of a volunteer to help with publicity each month. All notices of the general meeting and field trips have been generated via email. A list of e-addresses will be provided if you can help. Notices have been written by the newsletter editor and passed along to the publicity person. This task should not take more than one hour each month. Let Arlys know if you can help. Thank you so much.

Prairie Dogs and Plague

by Richard Peterson

Plague is the disease that killed about 40 percent of Europe's human population in the five years from 1347 - 1352. It was caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* and was spread primarily by fleas. It also spread when human respiratory droplets (sneezing or coughing) were inhaled by others. The sylvatic form of plague can infect wild rodents.

It is believed that plague arrived in the U.S. around 1900 on commercial ships



Black-tailed Prairie Dogs

from Asia. By 1908, ground squirrels in California had been infected. The first occurrence in black-tailed prairie dogs occurred in Kansas in 1945. In Nebraska, the disease has not moved east of about the 100th meridian. That's a line from near the town of Norden in Keya Paha County to the north and then passing south through the counties of Brown, Blaine, Custer, Dawson, and Gosper to near the town of Holbrook in Furnace County near the Kansas border. Plague among prairie dogs, however, is rare throughout most of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

When plague does enter a prairie dog colony, the mortality rate approaches 100 percent. Most dogs show no symptoms when above ground, but they die underground. Time of exposure to time of death is usually less than 14 days. Being exposed to the disease for only about 65 years, prairie dogs are highly susceptible—in part because they live in colonies. When a prairie dog dies, the infected fleas seek a new host to infest. Plague can also devastate populations of marmots, ground squirrels, and chipmunks. Members of the cat family are particularly susceptible while the dog family tends to be more resistant. The flea that humans usually encounter, the Genus *Pulex*, is a poor vector or carrier of the plague bacterium. People worried about plague, however, should never handle prairie dogs. They should also avoid colony sites where prairie dogs seemed to have vanished, as plague-positive fleas may persist in the burrows for more than a year.

After a colony is decimated, where does the disease go? How does it stay around until the next outbreak? The most likely answer is that the disease is maintained in less susceptible rodents such as the deer mouse, northern grasshopper mouse, meadow vole, and certain ground squirrels.

The movement of plague has stalled from moving further east. The answer as to "why" is elusive; perhaps there is something about the climate that is not conducive to the maintenance and transmission of plague in the mixed-grass prairie. Most human cases in the U.S. occur in two regions: northern New Mexico and Arizona and southern Colorado and in California, southern Oregon, and far western Nevada.

Additional Birdathon Count Information

by Ken Reitan, Compiler

After the July newsletter had gone to press, it was learned that six additional bird species were identified by Jeff Meyer during Birdathon Weekend. These were green heron, ruby-throated hummingbird, Kentucky warbler, mourning warbler, Nashville warbler, and alder flycatcher. This report brings the **final 2019 Birdathon count to 130** (see original list and report on page 2 of the July issue). Jeff was also responsible for the pileated woodpecker sighting included in the original July report.

Bald Eagles Spring-Clean, Too!

That odd call that sounds like a rusty gate? You're hearing a pair of bald eagles getting ready to nest.

Bald eagles build large stick nests in tall trees which they use year after year. These nests endure rough treatment. Young eagles perch on the edge and flap their wings while holding on with their feet to avoid premature departure. This upward tugging can pull apart sections of the nest. The young birds may also yank at sticks with their beaks and chuck them over the side. Weather and wind take their toll, too. So every year, the eagles have to rebuild their bulky nests. An eagle looking for material may fly at a dead branch that's still attached to a tree. Coming in feet first, the bird hits the branch with its talons and, using its forward momentum, breaks off the limb. The eagle then carries the branch, often up to five feet long, back to the nest and wedges it in. Here's something amazing: Bald eagles have been known to carry sticks more than a mile to their nest.

(Editor's Note: The preceding account is taken from a podcast by Cornell Labs.)

Friends Membership Renewals

There are currently 230 paid-up memberships for Friends of Wachiska in our database. This represents a drop from our usual 300 - 310 chapter members. The reason for this drop seems to be fewer renewing memberships from the past quarter. In April, 25 memberships were renewed from the 41 reminder letters sent; for May, those numbers were 34 letters mailed with 25 resulting in renewals. June numbers reflected 13 renewals out of the 23 letters mailed. So, a net loss of 35 members resulted in the past three months.

Follow-up (Lost Friend) letters have been sent to people who did not renew in April. Likewise, letters will be mailed to those who did not renew in May and June.

Members who have renewed have been generous and supportive, so the membership budget is on track for the year. Thank you to everyone who has renewed their Friends memberships during the past quarter. And welcome to those new members joining Wachiska during this period!

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

What Can Lincoln Do to Combat Climate Change?

What can Lincoln do to protect our city from the effects of climate change? Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird has a plan. It starts immediately with support of city staff and Kim Morrow of Verdis Group. After a period of information gathering, a broad representative group of Lincoln citizen/stakeholders will be assembled to advise the work. Consider volunteering yourself! By next February there will be a public forum to report progress, and the plan is expected to be final next June.

We are prompted to understand how timely this assessment is by remembering how close we came to losing our water supply to the flooding this spring. Besides water availability and quality, other subjects of study will include transportation, food, health care, extreme flooding events, vector-borne diseases from mosquitoes and ticks, and climate refugees. If refugee sounds unlikely to you, try Googling "Map: Sea Level Rise Is Eating into Property Values" and consider the recent First Street Foundation's estimate of property value losses at \$16 billion from flooding in 17 East Coast states from 2005 to 2017.

Attention to energy efficiency and other city policy choices that address the causes of climate change will continue.

Nationally, more than 3,000 cities, states, and businesses have made commitments to climate action. The Rocky Mountain Institute totaled these commitments and found they can get us 2/3 of the way to the goals of the Paris Accord.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors' meeting in late June gave a strong endorsement to meeting the Paris Accord goals with federal action to put a price on carbon. "We can't do it alone," one mayor said, "We need Congress to act."

The effect of climate change on birds of Nebraska is part of a major new Audubon study published July 10. The "North American Grasslands and Birds Report" is on the National Audubon website: https://www.audubon.org/sites/default/files/audubon_north_american_grasslands_birds_report-final.pdf. Lead author Dr. Chad Wilsey says we must reduce carbon pollution and at the same time "we can protect and restore grassland habitat in climate strongholds, which are places we know birds will need in the future."

Given that 84 percent of the remaining grasslands are on private lands, the report recommends 1) technical support from Audubon staff for bird-friendly management practices for landowners and ranchers; 2) the use of term or permanent conservation easements; 3) vehicles for investment in healthy grasslands as well as natural climate solutions like soil

sequestration of carbon; and 4) adequate funding through the Farm Bill and the state Wildlife Action plans for incentives for grassland bird habitat protection. Audubon supports the Recovering America's Wildlife Act which was originally sponsored by our Congressman Jeff Fortenberry and now has 116 sponsors—65 Democrats and 51 Republicans. It would significantly increase funding for state plans.

The map on page 41 of the Summer Audubon issue shows tallgrass prairie ending at the Iowa-Nebraska line, but the map in the Grasslands Report shows tallgrass prairie extending into Nebraska. The report says, "Given the near total loss of native tallgrass prairie... this area is poorly represented in our prioritizations. We therefore recommend that any remaining fragments of unprotected tallgrass prairie be identified as a high priority for protection, restoration, or collection of genetic material for seed banks" (pp.38-39). Wachiska's territory isn't a "stronghold," but the report puts a high value on the patches of beautiful prairie that our chapter has protected.

Ron Klataske Receives Conservation Award

by Arlys Reitan



Ron Klataske

Ron Klataske, executive director of Audubon of Kansas Inc. (AOK), received the President's Award from the Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies in July. The commendation was presented for conservation successes achieved in Kansas, Nebraska, and the central Great Plains during the past 50 years. During that time Ron has spearheaded conservation campaigns while representing the National Audubon Society from 1970 to 1998 and Audubon of Kansas since 1999.

Two projects that Klataske developed resulted in two new units of the National Park system. They are the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in the Flint Hills of Kansas and a 76-mile stretch of the Niobrara River designated as a National Scenic River in northern Nebraska. He also proposed creation of Konza Prairie near Manhattan and the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma. In addition, Klataske led Audubon campaigns in opposition to dam and diversion proposals on the Platte and Niobrara rivers. Both federal projects were dropped, and the Platte River in central Nebraska is now regarded as the state's greatest wildlife attraction where nearly a half million sandhill cranes gather in early spring.

(Editor's Note: Ron Klataske was the catalyst in Wachiska's becoming a National Audubon Society [NAS] chapter in 1973. While representing NAS as regional vice president until 1998, Ron served chapters in nine states, traveling practically nonstop from Oklahoma to North Dakota. He often participated in meetings, lobbying efforts, press conferences, and outings across Nebraska. He was a true presence and helped all seven chapters get organized at that time. Currently there are four chapters in Nebraska.)

Public Officials

President Donald Trump

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

Senator Ben Sasse

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

Senator Deb Fischer

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

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (1st District)

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

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

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

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

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

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

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

State Senator

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

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

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

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

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

Lincoln City Council

402-441-7515

E-mail: council@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln Journal Star

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

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

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

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

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

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

I prefer to receive my newsletter by email.

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



American Goldfinch Family

How Can You Help Your Wachiska Chapter?

This newsletter offers several opportunities for you to engage in Wachiska's activities. Check out the following and contact the office or a Board member for details of how you can help.

- ◆ Fall Birdseed Sale (page 1)
- ◆ Harvesting Prairie Seed (page 2)
- ◆ Prairie Discovery Days (page 2)
- ◆ Bumble Bee Atlas Project (page 3)
- ◆ Board positions for 2020 (page 4)
- ◆ Future ideas re Wachiska (page 4)
- ◆ Publicity (page 4)
- ◆ Membership renewals (page 5)

Wachiska needs YOU!



WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2019

OFFICERS

President.....	*Stu Luttich (Geneva).....	402-759-3597
Vice President.....	*Theresa Pella.....	512-585-1511
Recording Secretary	*Cathy Shaner.....	402-421-1652
Treasurer	*Mary Rogge.....	402-488-1342
Immediate Past President.....	*Gary Fehr.....	402-570-4382

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*vacant	
Director at Large.....	*Terry Stentz	402-202-8819
Director at Large.....	*Melinda Varley	402-416-4111
Conservation.....	*Ross Scott (Roca)	402-202-1523
Education	*Tim Knott	402-483-5656
Field Trips	John Carlini	402-475-7275
	*Lana Novak	402-475-8693
Hospitality.....	Cheryl Moncure.....	402-488-0036
Legislation.....	Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm)	402-796-2114
	*Sam Truax.....	402-325-9012
Membership	*Jami Nelson	402-488-1598
Monthly Programs/General Meetings.....	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Newsletter Editor	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Population/Environment	*Mary King	402-570-3295
Publicity/Public Relations.....	vacant	

*Denotes Board member

OTHER ASSOCIATES

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