



Wachiska  
Audubon Society

Wachiska Audubon Society's vision: To share the experience  
and love of nature—that life may flourish in all its natural diversity

# The Babbling Brook

Our 47th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2020

**FEBRUARY 2020**

**Volume 29 - Issue 2**

**General Meeting and Program — Thursday, February 13, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln**

## 23rd Great Backyard Bird Count

*by Dave Titterington, Wild Bird Habitat Stores*

**B**irds are everywhere we look. It's hard to imagine the number of biologists, the time, and the expense it would take to scour North America—let alone the world—to count and compile data on birds, so biologists rely on citizen scientists to help with the task. These activities are great ways for families, individuals, schools, and community groups to contribute to a better understanding of the state of our birds. In return, participants learn more about birds, increase their birding skills, and know they are providing valuable scientific data to help our birds.

Keeping track of the birds you see and identify through citizen scientist projects such as the Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, Project Feeder Watch, World Bird Day, and others helps biologists compile data that can enhance bird conservation and management as well as help create policy to protect birds and their habitat.

One such activity taking place February 14–17 is the 23rd annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). This is your opportunity to become a citizen scientist by providing bird data to biologists at the Cornell Bird Lab in Ithaca, New York. This bird count is free and for all ages and all levels of birding experience. Everyone's



contribution is important. It doesn't matter if you only count and report the five birds you can identify coming to your bird feeder, the 75 bird species you see on an outing to a nature area, or even your sightings while driving a county road.

The Wild Bird Habitat Stores have been the Cornell Bird Lab's Nebraska ambassador for the Great Backyard Bird Count. Wild Bird Habitat sponsors events such as Wachiska's Bird EnCOUNTER and Pioneers Park Nature Center's GBBC activity. Wild Bird Habitat also promotes the GBBC statewide through public and social media.

Wachiska's February 13 general meeting will be presented by **Dave Titterington** from the Wild Bird Habitat Stores. Come and find out why this bird count is important and what biologists hope to discover. Learn how you can participate as a citizen scientist and how to report your findings. It can take as little time as counting birds for 15 minutes in your backyard on one or several days during the event. Count birds at different times of the day. You may count birds at various locations. Every bird counted is important. Once the count begins you can track the data collected in real time online submitted from across Nebraska or anywhere in the U.S., North America, or from around the world. It's easy to participate, so come learn how to join in the fun and excitement of the Great Backyard Bird Count. After all, it's for the birds!

Join Dave and Wachiska on **Thursday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m.** at Lincoln's Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street. Free parking is readily available in the church lot with overflow parking in the Pius X High School lot across the street to the west. There is easy access to the church with no steps and plenty of space for visiting with speakers and mingling with friends while enjoying refreshments following this free public program.

### Calendar

#### February

- 3 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 10 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 13 General Meeting, "Great Backyard Bird Count," by Dave Titterington, Unitarian Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 14-17 Great Backyard Bird Count (pages 1 and 2)
- 15 **Bird EnCOUNTER, Walt Library, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon** (page 2)
- 15 Field Trip to find the Lewis's Woodpecker at Schramm Park SRA, 1:00 p.m. (page 2)
- 15 Newsletter submission deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G sts., 6:00 p.m.

**Wachiska Audubon Office: 402-486-4846**

**Email: Office@WachiskaAudubon.org**



## Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

### Woodpecker Patrol at Schramm Park SRA

Big news was made when park naturalists discovered a Lewis's woodpecker visiting the bird feeder station at Schramm Park State Recreation Area in December, and many birders have traveled from far and wide



Lewis's Woodpecker

to see this handsome rarity. The park staff has done a great job of keeping the feeders well-provisioned, so the Lewis's has remained near that handy food source, alongside a crew of overwintering red-headed woodpeckers. Hopefully, this will continue a little longer, so we will have an opportunity to view a woodpecker extravaganza on our February field trip. After we've found and had our fill of viewing the Lewis's on its favorite roost trees across the road from the feeders, we'll hike around the area to look for other winter residents.

We'll meet at **1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 15**, on the south side of the State Capitol in Lincoln across from the governor's mansion on H Street. Participants can either caravan or carpool the 42 miles to our destination or can meet up with the group around 1:45 p.m. at the Schramm Aquarium and Education Center parking lot located five miles south of I-80's exit 432 via Road 31. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress for winter weather if you plan to hike. A state park vehicle entry permit is required, and a day pass is available for \$6/vehicle. The public is welcome. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

### Birdseed Sale Order Form Next Month

Watch for the March issue of *The Babbling Brook* for the Spring Birdseed Sale order form. Orders with payment must be in by March 16 in order to pick up your orders on March 27 and 28.

### Bad Weather Policy During Winter Months

If Lincoln Public Schools cancel classes due to inclement weather on the day of Wachiska's general meeting/program, Wachiska will follow LPS's lead and cancel, too. A notice will be posted on KLKN TV's cancellation list which scrolls across the TV screen.

## February at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center

The Great Backyard Bird Count weekend is fast approaching, and we've got lots planned. This nationwide bird count takes place February 14-17, and anyone can participate by choosing to bird for just 15 minutes on one or all of the days and then entering their sightings online.

On Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15, come out to the prairie and become a community scientist by discovering the winter birds of Nebraska on a guided, family-fun bird walk. Free admission, binoculars, and bird guides will be available. Both walks are scheduled from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Registration is requested.

On Sunday, February 16, from 4:00-5:30 p.m., join us for another Birds and Brews presentation: "Goatsuckers, Nightjars, and Timberdoodles!" Jason "the Birdnerd" and Stephen Brenner from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will take a look at some amazing Nebraska birds, where to find them, and how the birds got their crazy names. A selection of delicious local brews will also be on tap. This event is for adults only (21+). Space is limited with \$15 prepayment required at our website. Find full details of these and other programs at [springcreek.audubon.org](http://springcreek.audubon.org), 402-797-2301, or [scp@audubon.org](mailto:scp@audubon.org).

### The Babbling Brook Read Far and Wide

"Dear friends, my brother forwarded your very nice December newsletter which included a story about raising funds for a prairie habitat manager. I am sorry we were not able to make a gift in December, but we hope you can still use the enclosed contribution for that purpose.

"The work you are doing to protect and preserve native prairie is essential and inspiring. We know you accomplish much of your work through countless hours of volunteer effort. With the increasing amount of prairie you are bringing under protection, hiring a habitat manager makes complete sense. Many thanks for all that you do."

-- Dwight Gee & Barbara Wright, Seattle, Washington

*Editor's Note: Watch for the March newsletter which will carry a big announcement on the habitat manager fund.*

### NO More Calendars this Year

Jeff Meyer delivered almost 200 new 2020 calendars to three retirement or rehab facilities this week. Old calendars turned in for school projects/bulletin board displays have yet to find a home. If you know of a school or facility that might want them, let us know. Please, no more calendars this year. Thanks for your help in recycling.

## Tax Check-off for Nebraska's Non-game Species

At income tax time, there is one important item all of us who love wildlife need to remember when filing our taxes and that is the check-off for Nebraska's non-game and endangered species listed at the bottom of your Nebraska tax form. We can all benefit from providing for the non-game species as well as the endangered species in our state. Hunters, anglers, and trappers have supported the conservation of game and furbearing species since the early 1900s. Funding for non-game wildlife and those species considered endangered or threatened is managed, conserved, and supported in part by the check-off.

Hunters and sportsmen/women support game animals, their conservation, and habitat by spending money on supplies for our sport. A percentage of the money spent goes toward those animals and their future. The check-off is a way every person—hunter, angler, or not—can contribute funding for non-game wildlife species in our state.

More than 2,000 species of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and plants are considered non-game species in Nebraska; they are species that are not hunted, trapped, or fished. Species such as hawks and herons, bats and brown snakes, turtles and frogs, flying squirrels and prairie flowers are all non-game.

In addition, tens of thousands of invertebrates, like beetles and butterflies, also fall under the non-game category. These constitute 98 percent of all species in Nebraska. Laws state that revenue from hunting and fishing licenses cannot be spent directly on non-game species.

Some of these species are endangered, being on the brink of extinction throughout all, or a significant portion, of their range. Others are threatened or likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. Species such as the jackrabbit, spotted skunk, and short-horned lizard are protected and classified as in need of conservation.

By supporting the Nebraska non-game wildlife program with a tax-deductible gift, you are taking an active part in protecting Nebraska's wide diversity of non-game wildlife, including threatened species like the river otter and the wild places they need to survive. Efforts to protect threatened and endangered species and their habitats have a hard time succeeding without our support.

To donate, look for the peregrine falcon symbol near the bottom of the second page of Form 1040N to contribute. For those not entitled to a state tax refund, contributions can be made at the Commission's secure website at [www.OutdoorNebraska.org](http://www.OutdoorNebraska.org) or by mail to The Non-game and Endangered Species Fund, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln NE 68503-0370.

## Bird EnCOUNTER at Walt Library February 15

by Chuck Francis, Population/Environment Committee

Here's a special FREE event for your children and grandchildren to celebrate birds and the coming of spring! The annual Bird EnCOUNTER sponsored by Wachiska Audubon will be held at Walt Library on South 14<sup>th</sup> Street, **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, on Saturday, February 15.** As in previous years, there will be bird-centered events especially for the younger set:

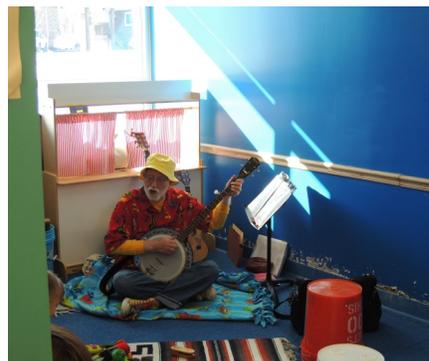
- ◆ Build a pine cone feeder to take home
- ◆ Learn to recognize common bird songs
- ◆ Build-a-Bird with your own imagination
- ◆ Sing along with Jim King—songs about birds
- ◆ Use binoculars to identify local birds
- ◆ Play a matching bird game
- ◆ Draw birds with Dr. Paul Johnsgard
- ◆ See live Nebraska raptors up close

Especially popular have been the presentations of live raptors and the pine cone feeders to hang in your own backyard. Our own Wachiska bird specialist, Dr. Paul Johnsgard, who has written and illustrated more than 80 books on birds of all types, will be on hand to encourage youngsters to draw birds. To be sure your kids can learn to identify local birds, we will have some birds permanently perched in trees and on the ground—they will not fly away while children learn to focus binoculars and get help to name what they can find.

For those who would like an immersion in the bird education experience, volunteer for an hour that morning. We can shuffle you around to help with different activities. To volunteer, contact Barb Francis, 402-483-6727 or [barbfrancis8@gmail.com](mailto:barbfrancis8@gmail.com) or Arlys at the Wachiska office and leave your name and contact information.



**Paul Johnsgard drawing with family**



**Jim King playing bird songs with kids**

Walt Library is located at 6701 South 14th Street near Lincoln Southwest High School and the Cooper YMCA. The Bird EnCOUNTER was organized by Wachiska Audubon's Population and Environment Committee to commemorate the Great Backyard Bird Count several years ago.

# Lincoln's 2019 Christmas Bird Count Report

by Jason "the Birdnerd" St. Sauver

After a very rainy system blew in on December 27, 2019, and cancelled our originally planned date for the Christmas Bird Count (CBC), over 100 volunteers were treated to a lovely and sunny Sunday afternoon on January 5, to participate in the 120<sup>th</sup> season of the Christmas Bird Count. This year 67 species were recorded across Lincoln's count circle. This is almost the exact number of species as last year, but a rather different set of species. In past years, more waterfowl are usually recorded, but this year more species of sparrow were seen. Overall, bird numbers continue to be down. Some rarities were the highlight of the count, including two tufted titmice and a usually western species, a Townsend's solitaire.

THANK YOU to all our counters from across the Lincoln area who were too numerous to list this year! Many experienced and long-time counters returned, plus over 100 kids and their parents participated in the youth count and activities at Pioneers Park Nature Center, so a huge thanks to the staff and volunteers there. Big thanks, also, to Linda Brown for securing the Unitarian Church for our social after the count, and special thanks to Papa Murphy's of Lincoln for their generous (and delicious) donation. Finally, the count would NOT be possible without all the help and support from Wachiska Audubon and its members. THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!

## 2019 LINCOLN CBC - BIRD COUNT SUMMARY

Species	Tally	Species	Tally	Species	Tally
Snow Goose	13	Eurasian Collared-Dove	115	Eastern Bluebird	73
Ross's Goose	1	Mourning Dove	139	American Robin	807
Cackling Goose	25	Eastern Screech-Owl	1	Townsend's Solitaire	1
Canada Goose	4895	Great Horned Owl	3	European Starling	2458
Gadwall	1	Barred Owl	2	Cedar Waxwing	45
Mallard	480	Belted Kingfisher	2	Spotted/Eastern Towhee	1
Redhead	6	Red-bellied Woodpecker	87	American Tree Sparrow	179
Lesser Scaup	10	Downy Woodpecker	88	Field Sparrow	1
Common Merganser	1	Hairy Woodpecker	12	Swamp Sparrow	2
Ring-necked Duck	2	Northern Flicker	53	Fox Sparrow	1
Wild Turkey	26	Northern Shrike	1	Song Sparrow	7
Bald Eagle	14	Blue Jay	268	White-throated Sparrow	8
Northern Harrier	2	American Crow	120	White-crowned Sparrow	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	Horned Lark	6	Harris's Sparrow	56
Cooper's Hawk	5	Tufted Titmouse	2	Dark-eyed Junco	697
Red-tailed Hawk	76	Black-capped Chickadee	170	Northern Cardinal	201
Rough-legged Hawk	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch	10	Red-winged Blackbird	79
American Kestrel	19	White-breasted Nuthatch	148	Western Meadowlark	15
Merlin	4	Brown Creeper	6	Red Crossbill	2
American Coot	74	Carolina Wren	7	House Finch	167
Ring-billed Gull	20	Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	Pine Siskin	7
Rock Pigeon	691	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	American Goldfinch	152
				House Sparrow	389

**Total # of Species**      **67**      **Total # of Birds**      **12,969**

## Arm & Hammer Bird Cards

by Richard Peterson

The Church & Dwight Co., Inc., headquartered in Ewing, New Jersey, was founded in 1846 and sold sodium bicarbonate, aka baking soda. As a way to interest the consumer in the world around them and in buying their baking soda, one small collector card was packaged in each box of Arm & Hammer product. Some collectors refer to them as soda cards. This was at a time when many bird species were being killed for their meat and especially their feathers. Included on the card was the message, "For the Good of All, Do Not Destroy the Birds." The Arm & Hammer cards were first published in the 1880s.

The inaugural set "Beautiful Birds of America" consisted of 60 cards. Between the first card to the last set issued in 1975, there are believed to be 3,933 bird cards. I am not sure of the actual number of species depicted. The first series was followed by another series of 60 titled "Beautiful Birds"; then came "Game Birds" (set of 30), "New Series Birds" (30), "Useful Birds of America" (issued in ten series of 15 to 30 cards each), and "Birds of Prey" (10). The company also offered a souvenir book sold for six two-cent postage stamps.

If you wrote the company and wanted to acquire a complete set, "a dime or five two-cent postage stamps will about pay the cost of postage and upon its receipt...we shall be pleased to mail a complete set of cards."

Other subjects besides birds included "Interesting Animals" (set of 30), "Champion Dog Series" (30), "New Series of Dogs" (10), "Fish Series" (30), "Beautiful Flowers" (60), "Mother Goose" (30), and the "Cow Series" (25). All subjects, including the birds, totaled 6,161 cards which, of course, includes variations. The year of release and copyright date of some of these card series is unclear. The last set issued was in 1975 to commemorate the bicentennial when they reissued the "Birds of Prey" set. The size of the soda cards ranged from 2½ x 3¼", 1½ x 3", 1½ x 2½", and 1½ x 2¼".



On the front of the card was the bird's picture, a copy of an actual painting, and on the reverse a description of the subject along with advertising. One of the artists commissioned to paint

the birds was Louis Agassiz Fuertes, one of the greatest bird and wildlife painters since John James Audubon. Other artists were also commissioned. The value of these cards depends on their size, condition, and if they are a complete numbered series which properly match.

The popularity of the cards with the public prompted other companies to follow suit. In 1898, the Singer Sewing Machine Company issued a set of songbird cards. The National Wildlife Federation also got into the act with Roger Tory Peterson being the artist.

Information can be found in a catalog list of all Arm & Hammer cards at [www.musicbyjoelill.com/sodacards.htm](http://www.musicbyjoelill.com/sodacards.htm).

## America's Bird Protections Under New Attack

The administration has just announced its most serious attack yet on the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the billions of birds protected by America's most important bird law.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed a new regulation to gut enforcement of the essential law that has protected birds for decades by letting industries off the hook for bird deaths from oil spills, oil waste pits, toxic mining ponds, and more.

This attack comes at a time when bird populations are facing a crisis. New reports document a decline of three billion birds in North America since 1970; Audubon's climate report indicates that two-thirds of the continent's birds are threatened by climate change.

**Take action and tell the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that you strongly oppose their plan to gut the MBTA and give industries a free pass for avoidable bird deaths.**

Passed in 1918 after tireless advocacy by Audubon, the MBTA protects nearly all of America's native birds. It ended the slaughter of birds that decimated great egrets and other species at the turn of the century. For decades, the MBTA has helped reduce avoidable industrial hazards that birds face from oil and gas activities, electricity transmission, wind energy production, toxic chemicals, and more. Because of the law, industries have adopted practices that limit these hazards. They are held accountable for bird deaths and recovery efforts after oil spills.

BP was fined \$100 million under the MBTA for its role in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill—money that is now being used to restore habitat for impacted species. Under the proposed rule, companies responsible for future oil spills won't owe a dime in MBTA penalties for any bird deaths.

Birds need your voice now more than ever! Submit a public comment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to oppose MBTA rollbacks that put nearly all of our nation's beloved birds at greater risk. More info at [action.audubon.org](http://action.audubon.org).

# Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

In 2020, National Audubon tells us we'll need to keep on telling Congressman Fortenberry and senators Sasse and Fischer about the importance of federal support for clean energy.

Unfortunately, the efforts to keep clean energy tax credits in the continuing budget resolution were not successful in December.

Audubon's vice president for climate, Renee Stone, said Audubon will continue to advocate for the extension of the tax credits, as soon as possible, for energy storage, solar, wind, geothermal, electric vehicles, and carbon capture. She noted that tax credits initiated by President George W. Bush have added over 345,000 jobs in the wind and solar industries.

Support for the tax credits comes from environmental groups, but also from the National American Farm Bureau Federation; the Farmers Union; The National Association of Home Builders; and the National Association of Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors.

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In the private sector, the year-end good news is that coal-fired power generation was cut in half in the last decade and is at its lowest level since 1975; however, natural gas generation rose and emissions from other sectors like buildings and industry increased ("Preliminary US Emissions Estimates for 2019," The Rhodium Group 1/7/20).

At the present time, natural gas is responsible for more climate heating emissions than coal, according to a study by the Environmental Research Letters (Vol 14, no. 12, Dec. 4, 2019). As CBS News reported Dec. 6, 2019, "Recent research has also cast doubt on the clean-energy credentials of natural gas. Extracting and transporting it demands thousands of wells and miles of pipelines, and that infrastructure tends to leak. The gas released, mostly methane, has between 20 and 80 times the climate warming potential of carbon dioxide."

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At year's end, the energy sector, oil and gas, placed last in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index. According to IEEFA's Tom Sanzillo's report 1/9/20, the energy sector gained 7.3 percent while the next lowest performing sector, health care, was up 19 percent. The market as a whole rose 29 percent. The energy sector is now 4.3 percent of the index compared to 25 percent in the 1980s when oil and gas companies represented seven of the top 10 companies, but none today. This year, ExxonMobil dropped out of the S&P's top ten for the first time in more than 100 years.

Sanzillo asked how long institutional investors like BlackRock could "remain wedded to these companies with weak revenues and negative outlooks." A few days later, BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager with about \$7 trillion in investments, issued two statements which announced a number of changes

including strengthening a commitment to sustainability and transparency. More specifically, it pledged to exit those investments "that present a high sustainability-related risk such as thermal coal producers" and to launch "new investment products that screen fossil fuels."

BlackRock's CEO wrote, "Under any scenario, the energy transition will still take decades . . . But there is no denying the direction we are heading. Every government, company, and shareholder must confront climate change."

BlackRock's Global Executive Committee wrote, "A successful low-carbon transition will require a coordinated, international response from governments aligned with the goals of the Paris agreement, including the adoption of carbon pricing globally."

## Wachiska's Strategic Planning Exercise Approaches

Following the release of a Request for Proposal in December to hire a strategic planning consultant, four candidate organizations were interviewed prior to Board action. This step builds on the open forum input received last summer and complements the recent efforts to fund a prairie habitat manager. To date, \$7,500 in grant funding has been received to help Wachiska review and update the 2010 strategic plan and establish concrete implementation steps. You can still let any Board member know what you think the chapter's future should look like (contact info on page 8) or email Theresa Pella, vice president, [pella\\_t@yahoo.com](mailto:pella_t@yahoo.com).

## We're Trying Something New

At the February general meeting, a raffle will take place. The lucky winner will take home a birdfeeder which retails for \$42.95. The accompanying literature claims it's not just 100 percent squirrel proof but also pest proof with individually spring-loaded feeding ports that only let songbirds feed, not pests. The all-metal construction keeps suet dry and fresh. The Wild Bird Habitat Stores donated this birdfeeder. Raffle tickets will sell for \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. The winner must be present to win.

## Garage Sale Coming this Spring/Summer

Wachiska's Board has given the green light to hold a garage sale later this year. Begin thinking about this now by designating space in your garage or basement and then price each item as you decide that it has to go! More information later this year.

*"Keep your face always toward the sunshine—and shadows will fall behind you."*

-- Walt Whitman

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> District)**

301 S 13<sup>th</sup> 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (3<sup>rd</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> St Rm 110, Lincoln NE 68508  
Phone: 402-441-7447 Fax: 402-441-6301  
E-mail: [commish@lancaster.ne.gov](mailto:commish@lancaster.ne.gov)

### **Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird**

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10<sup>th</sup> St Rm 301, Lincoln NE 68508-2828  
Phone: 402-441-7511 Fax: 402-441-7120  
E-mail: [mayor@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:mayor@lincoln.ne.gov)

### **Lincoln City Council**

402-441-7515  
E-mail: [council@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:council@lincoln.ne.gov)

### **Lincoln Journal Star**

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

## **Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!**

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

### **Friends of Wachiska (local membership)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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



**American Goldfinches**

\_\_\_ **I prefer to receive my newsletter by email.**

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

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## Cornell Laboratory's eBird App

### Track your lists

What's your latest life bird? What bird lists do you care about? eBird tallies them for you and archives your photos and sounds—all for free.

### Find more birds

Explore birds and hotspots near you and wherever you go, all based on the latest sightings from around the world.

### Share your sightings

Join the world's largest birding community. Every sighting matters. Contribute yours.

<https://ebird.org/home>



## Wachiska Audubon Society

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www.WachiskaAudubon.org

## WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2020

### OFFICERS

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

### STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*Linda R. Brown .....	402-489-2381
Director at Large.....	*Curt Donaldson .....	402-730-0813
Director at Large.....	*Terry Stentz.....	402-202-8819
Conservation .....	*Ross Scott (Roca).....	402-202-1523
Education .....	*Tim Knott .....	402-483-5656
Field Trips.....	John Carlini .....	402-475-7275
	*Lana Novak .....	402-475-8693
Hospitality .....	Cheryl Moncure .....	402-488-0036
Legislation .....	*Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm).....	402-796-2114
Membership.....	*vacant .....	
Monthly Programs/General Meetings.....	Arlys Reitan .....	WAS office 402-486-4846
Newsletter Editor .....	Arlys Reitan .....	WAS office 402-486-4846
Population/Environment .....	Mary King.....	402-570-3295
	*Patty Spitzer .....	402-525-9726
Publicity/Public Relations .....	Arlys Reitan .....	WAS office 402-486-4846
Donor Development.....	Elizabeth Nelson .....	402-770-3485

\*Denotes Board member

### OTHER ASSOCIATES

Bird Questions.....	Kevin Poague.....	402-797-2301
Facebook Coordinator .....	Benjamin Vogt .....	402-499-5851
Raptor Recovery.....	Betsy Finch (Elmwood).....	402-994-2009
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.....	*Kristal Stoner.....	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director.....	Meghan Sittler .....	402-797-2301
Webmaster.....	Roxanne Smith .....	402-477-1319
Wachiska Computer Issues/Questions .....	Linda Sullivan .....	402-580-8515
Bookkeeper .....	Nancy Hamer .....	402-499-1306

## Remember Wachiska Audubon When Shopping Online

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

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

### A Gift to the Future

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