



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

The Babbling Brook

Our 42nd Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2015

FEBRUARY 2015

Volume 24 - Issue 2

General Meeting—Thursday, February 12, 7:00 p.m., Dick Administration Building, Union College, Lincoln

Chasing Icebergs

*with Dr. Ken Dewey, Professor of Applied Climate Sciences
School of Natural Resources, UNL*

Dr. Ken Dewey has spent several summers in the Arctic, exploring the Canadian Maritime Provinces as well as the North Atlantic Ocean between Labrador and Greenland. He has documented the icebergs moving from Greenland toward the North American continent. This presentation will include scenic photos taken along the way and will describe the rapidly changing climate in the Canadian Maritimes, North Atlantic Ocean, Arctic Sea, and Greenland.



Dr. Ken Dewey

life and is evident throughout his presentations. Except for two years spent at the National Weather Service Headquarters in Washington, DC, on a post-doctoral fellowship, Dewey's entire career has been spent at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he is a member of the School of Natural Resources Applied Climate Science Group. His UNL appointment is primarily outreach and extension education. Dr. Dewey also works with the media giving numerous interviews throughout the year on TV, radio, and in the newspapers about weather and climate.

Dewey has received seven teaching awards from UNL. His primary areas of research include severe storms climatology, snow and ice studies, short-term climatic variability, and severe weather preparedness. He organizes the annual Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium and Family Weatherfest held each spring on UNL's East Campus. Professor Dewey runs a national summer weather camp at UNL for students in middle and high school to encourage them to pursue careers in science.

Dr. Dewey's lifelong passion for weather began as a small child in Chicago where he collected weather data around his house and clipped weather news reports from the local papers for his scrapbook. His passion for weather has remained throughout his

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m.** for this free public presentation in the Dick Administration auditorium on Union College campus, 3800 South 48th Street, in Lincoln. From 48th and Calvert streets, go one block south to the north end of campus. Free parking is available on both sides of 48th Street and in the College View SDA Church parking lots on Prescott Avenue. There is additional parking north of the new science building. Look for Audubon signs on the Dick Building's doors where there is also a ramp at the east entrance and an elevator inside. Refreshments will be served after the program.

Calendar

February

- 2 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 3 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Population/Environment Committee, Walt Library, 6:30 p.m.
- 7 Bird EnCOUNTER, Walt Library, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (page 3)
- 7-8 Spring Birdseed Sale distribution, Midwest Roofing
- 12 General Meeting, "Chasing Icebergs," by Dr. Ken Dewey, Union College, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 15 Field Trip to Missouri River north of Omaha, 12:30 p.m. (page 2)
- 16 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 26 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G, 6:00 p.m.

Birdseed Pickup February 7 and 8

Be sure to pick up your birdseed at
Midwest Roofing
1938 Yolande Avenue
(south of 20th and Cornhusker Highway) in Lincoln
Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Eagles and Swans

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

In the winter when open water is at a premium, the Missouri River Valley hosts regal bald eagles and trumpeter swans. This month we'll spend an afternoon searching for these majestic giants by first scanning the trees around the Missouri River north of Omaha for bald eagles, and then stopping at Carter Lake to view the elegant swan flock that's overwintering there. Fifty-four trumpeters and two tundras were seen earlier this winter along with a variety of waterfowl.



Photo by John DeBoer

Trumpeter Swan

We'll meet at **12:30 p.m.** on **Sunday, February 15**, on the south side of the State Capitol in Lincoln at 15th & H streets, across the street from the governor's mansion. Participants can either carpool or caravan to Omaha. Suggested items to bring include binoculars and scope if you have them and a water bottle. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions call John at 402-475-7275.

Summary of Recent Field Trips

by Ken Reitan, Field Trip Committee Board Representative

The October field trip on the fifth of the month attracted five people. The group visited Flathead Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Rose Creek WMA in the Fairbury area. A Game and Parks employee had seen a pileated woodpecker at Flathead so this was one of the main reasons for visiting this site. Luckily, participants got to see a pileated that day. Since these sightings have occurred over an extended period of time, it is likely there is more than one in the vicinity. This area is beyond the normal range of this species.

The group then visited the Rose Creek WMA. A main attraction here is a hand-carved mausoleum which features a high ceiling. The fellow who built the mausoleum spent ten years completing it, but, for legal reasons, was not going to be allowed to be buried there. One stretch of the creek itself features a very rocky area. This WMA is small but very scenic.

On November 16, five people visited Conestoga Lake on what turned out to be an extremely cold day. No waterfowl were seen, but the group did see golden-crowned kinglets, fox sparrows, and purple finches. It turns out that this season there was an irruption of purple finches in Nebraska.



From the Board ...

by Bob Boyce, Recording Secretary

Sharing Our Everyday World

I like that I share my yard with squirrels and rabbits and birds—and the occasional raccoon. I'm happy to see a robin has made a nest under my roof. I enjoy discovering a cocoon on my garage door. I delight in watching a hawk on my backyard fence, eating a small bird. I get excited seeing deer and wild turkeys in Wilderness Park.

And here's a confession. When I see a dead animal in the road, it saddens me; more than once I have stopped, when the animal was newly dead, and out of respect for the dead, picked it up and tossed it into the roadside weeds, so the body wouldn't get flattened. I sometimes quote Robert Burns as I do it—"I'm truly sorry man's dominion has broken Nature's social union."

I love introducing my grandchildren—ages 3 and 7—to the natural world. They know squirrels and rabbits, of course, and can recognize some birds. When I heard about "The Urban Bestiary," a new book by Lyanda Haupt, I quickly got a copy from the library, hoping it was something I could share with the kids.

The subtitle is "Encountering the Everyday Wild," and I thought—Great! This will tell about the wild animals we see around us—the rabbits, squirrels, birds, and possums! Well, yes, it does that, and does it well—not rabbits, but squirrels and birds (nearly half the book—several different species, including chickens!), and possums, as well as raccoons, coyotes, bears, cougars, and moles. (Bears and cougars as "everyday"?? And she also includes humans and trees!! A bit quirky—but fun!)

Unfortunately, the book is not geared toward children, but the adult I showed it to was delighted. The author tells many enlightening stories of human encounters with these everyday wild animals—raccoons that come in the cat door, screech owls bathing in our birdbaths, Mozart and his starling, the sparrow that got feathers for its nest from inside a henhouse.

Haupt points out misconceptions and retells interesting myths about the animals. This is not a dry catalogue of what they eat, where they live, how long they live, how big they are, etc.

She tells how starlings were introduced into the U.S., how moles help aerate the earth, the meaning of the various calls of the chickadee, the playfulness of raccoons, and much more. Haupt helps us feel a close kinship with wildlife, if we only keep our eyes and ears open.

More and more wildlife—deer, mountain lions, coyotes, raccoons, bobcats—will be seen in the city as we humans take over more and more of their territory. We need to learn to enjoy our encounters and understand the lives of those who share our neighborhoods. This book is an excellent beginning.

4th Annual Bird EnCOUNTER is for the Birds . . . and the Kids

by Jessi Umberger, Population/Environment Committee

Wachiska's population/environment committee is again working with the Lincoln City Libraries, the Wild Bird Habitat Stores, and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to provide a fun, practical, and free family event to become acquainted with common birds in our area and those birds most likely to be spotted here during the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) a week later (see related article below).

Lincoln's Bird EnCOUNTER will take place **Saturday, February 7**, from **10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at Walt Branch Library, 6701 South 14th Street. Bring your children and grandchildren to this free activity that will feature live raptors, kids' crafts, bird watching, fun games, bird photos, and more. Dr. Paul Johnsgard will be helping children draw birds. If you can help, call Barb at 402-483-6727 or the Wachiska office to volunteer—then bring the kids to the library and stay to take part with them.

National Great Backyard Bird Count Coming to a Backyard Near You

by Chuck Francis and Dave Titterington

The 18th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will be held February 13-16. This is a great way for children and adults to assess what is in their own yards and a fun and easy way to learn more about our "frequent flyer" visitors up close and personal. When you participate, your counts will contribute to a global census on one weekend that essentially puts a finger on the pulse of our present bird populations, a critical measure of how we are doing in preserving habitat and contributing to maintaining essential members of our shared ecosystem. Who visits your yard may surprise your family. This may prove to be an incentive to plant more bushes and other sources of natural food to increase the number of visitors next year.

Become a citizen scientist and help biologists track bird populations during the winter months. Yes! This four-day free bird count will help to collect data from citizens on bird movements across North America and be combined with the Christmas Bird Count and Project Feeder Watch data. The information will help biologists track bird patterns and discover new questions and insights. Scientists and bird enthusiasts can learn a lot by knowing where the birds are. Now that winter has gripped the continent, what are our birds doing? Bird populations are dynamic; they are constantly in flux. Scientists want to take a snapshot of our North American bird populations and YOU can help.

Everyone's contribution is important. All ages and skill levels of birders are asked to participate. It doesn't matter whether you identify, count, and report the five birds coming to your backyard bird feeder or the 75 species you see during a day's outing to a wildlife refuge. Your data will help answer many questions. The GBBC is a terrific way for individuals, families, schools, and community groups to contribute to a better

understanding of birds. In return, you will learn more about birds in the process. It's hard to imagine a more enjoyable and rewarding way to spend a little time on a late winter afternoon.

This annual event is sponsored by the Cornell Ornithology Laboratory, National Audubon, and Bird Studies Canada who all promote the counts from sites around the world.

Participation in the GBBC is free and easy to do. You just submit your bird lists on the GBBC website at www.birdsource.org or on eBird at www.ebird.com. To learn more about the count, to get additional information about participating, and to explore results from previous years, visit www.birdsource.org. You'll also find a list of apps and electronic field guides and bird ID guides.

Entering the birds you observe in a 15-minute period (or longer, if you like) is simple and easy, so follow these steps:

1. Go to the Cornell website at gbbc.birdcount.org/ to register your name and e-address to create your account.
2. Spend at least 15 minutes counting birds in your yard or other convenient place close-by. You can do this as many times as you like in several locations on February 13, 14, 15, and 16; you report the results separately for each day of observation. In each location, estimate the number of individuals of each species you observe.
3. Enter your results on the website above by just clicking the "submit observations" button on the home page. Your results will be tabulated with like-minded people around the world. There are also special apps you can download to a mobile device, and the instructions are on the website.

For those wanting to participate but not having an Internet connection, stop by any of Nebraska's Wild Bird Habitat Stores for a free GBBC packet or call to have them send you one. After you complete the count, return your lists to that store where they will electronically submit your report. Call the store at 402-420-2553 with questions.

February Lectures in Water Seminar Series

UNL's Spring Water and Natural Resources Seminar Series will run through April again this year. Free lectures are presented in the first floor auditorium of Hardin Hall at North 33rd and Holdrege streets on East Campus on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The two lectures in February will be:

February 11 - "Uranium in City Water" by Lynn Mayhew, Grand Island Utilities Department

February 25 - "Groundwater Monitoring Program" by Aaron Young, survey geologist, UNL's School of Natural Resources

Check *The Babbling Brook* next month for talks in March and April.

Thank you Gewacke Prairie Donors!

by Elizabeth Nelson, President

In October 2014, Wachiska informed our membership of the possibility of Wachiska's purchasing the Gewacke Prairie near Strang, Nebraska. This prairie had been owned by the same family since records began. Third-generation owner, Margaret (Gewacke) Nichols, desired to keep the land as close to its original tallgrass prairie ecosystem as possible. She offered to sell the land to Wachiska as she was confident of our stewardship.

We reached out to our members and supporters to help with the purchase and were delighted with the generous response we received. Wachiska completed the purchase of the Gewacke Prairie in December and is now planning how to best conserve this prairie for wildlife habitat and educational purposes.

We thank the following donors for their generosity and commitment to helping Wachiska preserve tallgrass prairie in Southeast Nebraska:

\$1,500+

David & Theresa Peace
Ernie & Audrey Rousek

\$1,000 - \$1,499

Linda R. Brown
Allen Freye
Paul Johnsgard
Marilyn McNabb
Allison & Gary Petersen
Mort Stelling
Bruce & Judy Wendorff

\$500 - \$999

John & Martha Eischeid
Chuck & Barb Francis
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Mary & Jim Pipher
Ron & Deb Sack
Eilene & Melvin TeKolste
Sue Ellen & Milan Wall
Darlene & Merlin Wright

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Mark Van Roojen
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Mary Kay Vestecka
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JoAnne Thiele
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Milda Vaitkus
Lyle & Joyce Vannier
VerJean Vannier
Judith & Rodney Vincent
Mike & Jane Voorhies
Carol Wagener
Everett & Nan Weilage
Dennis Wertz
Ron Whitney
Rob & Pat Wikel
Linda & Karel Znamenacek

Looking for a Volunteer Graphic Designer — We have several brochures we wish to create in 2015 and would appreciate the services of a volunteer graphic designer to help with layout and printing management. If you have experience with InDesign or other similar design programs and would like to help out, please contact Elizabeth Nelson at eNelson555@gmail.com.

Climate Change Update

by Chuck Francis

Hidden Costs of Human-induced Climate Change

Wind turbines and photovoltaic arrays kill birds, right? But how many kills per year, and how do these compare with other threats in our ever-changing, human-managed ecosystem? A December article in the *New York Times Magazine* compares wind machines with other energy generating facilities and reports that twice as many birds are killed per kilowatt-hour of energy produced by nuclear power plants, and 30 times as many birds are killed per kilowatt-hour from fossil fuel-powered plants.

For example, the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico reportedly killed over 600,000 birds, plus caused untold damages to sea turtles, bottlenose dolphins, and the shrimp industry along the Gulf Coast. Author Rebecca Solnit, a prolific writer with focus on environmental and social commentary, cites technical studies on avian kills from various sources. She includes a summary of the Audubon Society projections on loss of at least 50 percent of current habitat for 314 species of the total 588 North American species studied. These are the birds at risk from global climate change, and over one-third of these are now called “climate-endangered.”

Solnit quotes the respected director of the Danish Center for Energy Technology at Aarhus University, Benjamin Covacool, who is also a professor at Vermont Law and a widely respected scientist with over 300 reviewed publications from his research into impacts of global warming on wildlife and other climate-change topics. He reports that in one year, the coal-fired and gas-fired power plants in the U.S. kill about 24,000,000 birds, compared to 46,000 by wind farms.

Why do we not understand what is happening? The impacts on birds are often illustrated to the public when the press shows a heart-wrenching photo of a broken bird killed by a wind machine. We are ignorant of the hundreds of birds killed at UNL when they fly into large windows, especially those on the glassed walkways between buildings. EC1781 from Nebraska Extension reports that on the national scene nearly 500 million birds are killed in the U.S. by feral cats, such as those cats on the UNL City Campus. Untold numbers are killed by cars and semis on our interstate highways. These are sobering statistics.

From the *NYT* article, “That one death is a tragedy, a million deaths a statistic, is as true of animals as it is of human beings. It’s a lot harder to mourn the loss of an entire habitat—as is threatened now for birds like the chestnut-collared longspur—than it is to mourn a golden eagle struck down by a turbine blade.”

Any data needs to be checked, and then put into context, and the obvious answers to questions about loss of bird populations are



Chuck Francis

multiple and complex. Often some of the most obvious conclusions are based on emotion and lack of careful scholarship. It is useful to employ the power of the Internet to search out the results of science in order to develop our own informed opinions about loss of habitat, consequences of human-caused climate change, and the prospects for our endangered birds.

Welcome Newest Members to Start Off 2015

by Joyce Vannier, Membership Chair

Joining our chapter as Friends of Wachiska in the past 60 days are Dennis & Joyce Hansen, Tom O’Connor, and John Refshauge.

In the past two months Wachiska has been informed by National Audubon that these people have been assigned to our chapter:

Laverne Bish	Robert Muckel
Rick Capps	Sarah Opp
Harold Chaffee	C. B. Piersel
Karna Cronn	Betty Pitney
Sam Frances Daharsh	Thomas Pomeroy
Claudia Davis	Bill & Debra Saxton
Timothy Doyle	Lavera Schlichtemeier
Jeffrey Eckman	Rod Schuman
Barbara Elliott	Larry Sock
Maureen Flierl	Mary Sullivan
Frank & Myrna Forbes	Denise Taylor
Elizabeth Gushard	Joel Watts
Jeff Jewell	Sherri Wimes
Doris King	Brooks Xia
Janet Masters	

Welcome to all new members. Hope we can meet you at one of the chapter’s functions soon!

Looking for a Nature Movie?

Check out these local showings of Showtime’s “Years of Living Dangerously” series at Meadowlark Coffee and Espresso, 1624 South Street. Movies begin at 7:00 p.m. Sponsors are Citizens’ Climate Lobby, Interfaith Power and Light, and Nebraska Wildlife Federation.

Friday, February 6 — **Dangerous Future**

Friday, February 13 — **Moving a Mountain**

Lincoln's 2014 Christmas Bird Count

by Kevin Poague

Cold, overcast weather greeted 40 birders who participated in the Christmas Bird Count for Lincoln on Saturday, December 20. They walked, drove, watched feeders, and tallied **60 species** and 16,590 individual birds. These results are lower than in 2013 (64 species and 19,424 birds). The low total number is almost entirely due to fewer Canada geese seen (11,996 in 2013 vs. 2,945 this year). The quiet day also likely made it more difficult for observers to come across rare or unusual species that occasionally are reported on winter counts, such as killdeer, long-eared owl, tufted titmouse, and brown thrasher. But notable species such as northern harrier, meadowlark, and horned lark went unnoticed. Species seen this year but not in 2013 included gadwall, redhead, and pine siskin.

Although fewer mallards (1,165 vs. 561) and Canada geese (11,996 vs. 2,945) were seen this year than in 2013, more Eurasian collared-doves (49 vs. 1; this trend in data poses the question: Are they increasing in the Lincoln area?), mourning doves (365 vs. 150), rock pigeons (2,693 vs. 967), white-breasted nuthatches (161 vs. 87), robins (1,325 vs. 232), and red-winged blackbirds (125 vs. 2) were seen this year. The seven most common species seen were European starling, Canada goose, rock pigeon, American robin, house sparrow, mallard, and mourning dove. The unexpected species this year included pied-billed grebe, yellow-rumped warbler, merlin, and lesser scaup.

Michelle Johnson (who also reviewed this article) organized the following birders: Colleen Babcock, Elaine Bachel, Linda R. Brown, Mary Bomberger Brown, Anita Breckbill, Pat Cole, Barbara DiBernard, Lynn Darling, Rick Eades, Larry Einemann, Andrea Faas, Sue Guild, Phyllis Higley, Adam Hintz, Michelle Johnson, Jamie Kelley, Tim Knott, Thomas Labeledz, Dan Leger, Dwain Leonhardt, George Maly, Linda Maslowski, Pete Maslowski, Katie McKinney, Bruce Mellberg, Bertha Mesarch, Rosalind Morris, Lana Novak, Linda Plock, Kevin Poague, Susan Quinn, Ken Reitan, Dave Rus and his two children, Jennifer Smith, Ruth Stearns, April Stevenson, Barbara Straus, Moni Usasz, Jake Walker, and Bruce Wendorff.

Here is the complete list of birds observed during the 2014 Lincoln Christmas Bird Count:

Snow Goose - 1	Cooper's Hawk - 3	(Yellow-shafted Flicker) - 36	Song Sparrow - 23
Cackling Goose - 88	Red-tailed Hawk - 53	(Red-shafted Flicker) - 2	White-throated Sparrow - 4
Canada Goose - 2,945	Buteo sp. - 3	Northern Shrike - 1	Harris's Sparrow - 8
Pied-billed Grebe - 1	American Kestrel - 6	Blue Jay - 350	Dark-eyed Junco - 331
Mallard - 561	Merlin - 1	American Crow - 109	(Slate-colored Junco) - 305
Gadwall - 18	American Coot - 43	Black-capped Chickadee - 180	(Oregon Junco) - 2
Am. Green-winged Teal - 6	Rock Pigeon - 2,693	White-breasted Nuthatch - 161	Northern Cardinal - 177
Redhead - 7	Eurasian Collared-Dove - 49	Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1	Red-winged Blackbird - 125
Lesser Scaup - 2	Mourning Dove - 365	Brown Creeper - 9	Common Grackle - 3
Common Merganser - 1	Great Horned Owl - 6	Carolina Wren - 1	Blackbird sp. - 600
Hooded Merganser - 1	Barred Owl - 1	Golden-crowned Kinglet - 31	House Finch - 252
Wild Turkey - 59	Belted Kingfisher - 2	Eastern Bluebird - 68	Purple Finch - 10
Northern Bobwhite - 7	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 65	American Robin - 1,325	Pine Siskin - 34
Ring-necked Pheasant - 4	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 2	European Starling - 3,665	American Goldfinch - 308
Great Blue Heron - 2	Downy Woodpecker - 130	Cedar Waxwing - 74	Finch sp. - 15
Bald Eagle - 4 (2 immature)	Hairy Woodpecker - 14	Yellow-rumped Warbler - 5	House Sparrow - 900
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 3	Northern Flicker - 26	American Tree Sparrow - 303	

Keep Recycling those Aluminum Cans

A-Can Recycling Center recently sent Wachiska a check for \$80.39 for 157.5 pounds of aluminum cans our members and friends dropped off for Wachiska's credit in 2014. This comes to 51 cents/pound for aluminum saved from the landfill. Thanks to Connie and Ben Dahlberg and crew for continuing this program for Wachiska's coffers; the biggest thank you goes to all those supporters who continue to participate in this recycling effort.

If you know of a business or other group that would be willing to help Wachiska, call the office or A-Can Recycling.

Nebraska Crane Festival Next Month

Audubon's 45th annual celebration of the sandhill crane migration will take place March 19-22 in Kearney (see January's newsletter for details). Visit nebraskacrane festival.org or call 402-797-2301 for details. General crane-viewing information can be found at rowe.audubon.org or by calling the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary, 308-468-5282. Field trips, a workshop on crane behavior, and a variety of nature-related topics will be offered, including the Wild Experience Room.

Public Officials

President Barack Obama

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

Senator Ben Sasse

Contact information not available until later

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 Brad Ashford (2nd District)

Contact information not available until later

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: not available until later

State Senator _____

District ___ State Capitol

PO Box 94604

Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

State Capitol Switchboard 402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

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

Mayor Chris Beutler

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 208, Lincoln NE 68508-2828
Phone: 402-441-7511 Fax: 402-441-7120
E-mail: mayor@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln City Council

402-441-7515

E-mail: council@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln Journal Star

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

Check next month for updated contact information for newly-elected officials above or visit the Internet for the latest information.

Membership

Wachiska offers two choices of membership—many people choose both. Local membership, called Friends of Wachiska, includes receiving *The Babbling Brook*, our chapter's monthly newsletter. It also includes voting privileges and attendance at monthly meetings, programs, and field trips. All local membership dues remain with Wachiska to support chapter activities such as prairie preservation and education.

Membership in the National Audubon Society also includes membership in our local chapter, Wachiska. You will receive *Audubon* magazine from National Audubon along with *The Babbling Brook*.

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Recruited by _____

E-mail _____

_____ \$20 Individual/Friend

_____ \$50 Sustainer

_____ \$30 Families

_____ \$100 Patron

Make checks payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds remain with our local chapter. Mail to:

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

As a conservation organization, our goal is to use our natural resources wisely. Materials and postage are considerable, and we do not want to waste them. When your address changes or if you are receiving *The Babbling Brook* and would rather not get it, please notify us at office@wachiskaaudubon.org or 402-486-4846.

AND / OR

National Membership in National Audubon Society

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

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Enclose introductory membership fee of \$20.

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

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

C5ZP040Z

Sign Up to Receive *The Babbling Brook* Online

You can help Wachiska save paper and reduce the cost of printing and mailing the *Babbling Brook*. Beginning in early 2015, each month's newsletter will be posted online by the first day of each month. Electronic subscribers will receive an email the first of each month with a link to the online newsletter.

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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**.