



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 49th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2022

JANUARY 2022

Volume 31 - Issue 1

Wachiska Program — Thursday, January 13, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom web conference (**NO registration required**)
Link to attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83993679491>

Trees: Our Superhero Friends

by Justin Evertson, Nebraska Forest Service and Nebraska Statewide Arboretum



Justin Evertson

For our January program, Wachiska members are invited to join in this Zoom presentation kicking off a year of activities commemorating the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day in Nebraska.

On **Thursday, January 13, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Justin Evertson, a favorite presenter to this chapter,

will discuss “Trees: Our Superhero Friends” which will be a fast-paced overview of trees, including their economic value, physical and mental health benefits, the latest science, the value of planting native species, how trees impact and are impacted by climate change, and more.

This presentation is sponsored by Faith to Forest, an initiative by and for Lincoln faith communities and individuals in 2022 to celebrate, learn about, advocate for, and plant and care for trees in Lincoln. Originally organized by First-Plymouth Church, it was a coincidence that both of our programs are scheduled for the same night and time, so it seemed we should “piggy-back” and share the information.

Immediately following Justin's talk, Wachiska members will be invited to remain on the Zoom for a short discussion by Faith to

Forest co-chairs Laurel Van Ham and Lorrie Benson, both Wachiska members, who will provide a brief overview of Faith to Forest planned activities for the year. We'll end with any chapter business that needs to be addressed and which traditionally would precede the program.



There will be NO REGISTRATION for this program—but see the Zoom link below to participate.

To enter the program a few minutes before 7:00 p.m., go to this Zoom link : <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83993679491>.

Spring 2022 Birdseed Sale

by Cathy Shaner, Chair

Mark your calendar for Wachiska's Spring 2022 Birdseed Sale. On-line ordering will be available February 1 through March 10.

The website will be updated with items and prices at that time.

Mail-in order forms will be published in the March newsletter and must be postmarked by Thursday, March 10.



Birdseed pick up will be on Friday and Saturday, March 18-19. If you can help for an hour, please call Lana at 402-475-8693 or 402-570-1273 or the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846.

Calendar

January 2022

- 10 Conservation Committee via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 General Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m., “ Trees: Our Superhero Friends,” by Justin Evertson (No required registration)
- 15 Newsletter submission deadline, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 Board Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

Executive Director's Message

by Mark Brohman

I can't believe the end of the year is fast approaching. I have been on board as Wachiska's executive director for just over a month already. I thought I would relay where my serious love of birds began.



Mark Brohman

As an undergraduate in biology and chemistry at Chadron State College (CSC), I was particularly fascinated by aquatic insects and spent a summer doing a research collection project on aquatic insects in northwest Nebraska. I was about to take ornithology the next semester from Dr. Lawson, one of the biology professors at CSC.

Dr. Lawson told me ornithology was a hobby of his but, if I wanted to take it from a master, I should consider taking it at Cedar Point Biological Field Station during the summer under Dr. Paul Johnsgard. At the time I didn't know Dr. Johnsgard, but I thought this field station below Lake McConaughy sounded interesting, so I signed up for ornithology that next summer and had a fantastic experience. Everyone had to do a special bird project, so I decided I would do some observations on cliff swallows.

Dr. Charles Brown and his then wife, Mary Bomberger Brown, started studying cliff swallows in 1980, and in 1982 they began full-time research on them in the Lake McConaughy area. This was the summer of 1983, and the Browns were looking for help collecting data on their swallows. I signed up, not realizing I had become part of one of the longest-running field studies of birds done in North America, as Dr. Charles Brown's research continues. I had killed two birds with one stone—taken ornithology under the master and become part of a prestigious research project.

Over the years, like many of you, I got to know Dr. Johnsgard and considered him a friend, and years later I worked with Dr. Mary Bomberger Brown with interior least terns and piping plovers on the Platte River. Unfortunately, we have lost both of these wonderful ornithologists, but their work will live on forever.

A slight digression—one of my favorite Dr. Johnsgard stories pertains to a lab quiz. Early in the class, Dr. Johnsgard had a quiz with a couple dozen specimens he had dragged out to Cedar Point from Lincoln. There was this small, purple-colored bird. Almost everyone in the class identified it as a purple martin, but being a kid from the country, I knew this was no purple martin, but I couldn't think of any other purple-colored bird. Then I started looking at the marking you could faintly see beneath the purple. Ah ha! This looked like a male house sparrow that had been dyed purple, and it was the right size, so

that was my answer. It turned out I was right and was the only one who correctly identified it. I remember the grin on Dr. Johnsgard's face when he announced I was the only student who got it right.

I look forward to a wonderful 2022 and working with many of you on a number of issues and projects. Happy Holidays to all of you and your families.

Prairie Honors Ernie Rousek

by Mark Brohman and Tim Knott

On November 21, the Wachiska Audubon Society dedicated their Wildcat Creek Tallgrass Prairie to Ernie Rousek of Lincoln. Ernie is a long-time member of Wachiska, which was founded in 1973. The honor was bestowed for the decades of work he has contributed to Wachiska and prairies in Southeast Nebraska. The organization renamed the prairie "Ernie Rousek Wildcat Creek Prairie." This prairie in Gage County, south of Virginia, is comprised of approximately 32 acres of upland and lowland prairie and 48 acres of cropland and woodland. It was originally acquired in 1998 with a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and other funds. The site was named after nearby Wildcat Creek. Less than two percent of Nebraska's tallgrass prairie remain today, and many of those are degraded.



Ernie Rousek and Cindy Chinn

The metal sign installed at the prairie was created by Nebraska artist Cindy Chinn of Chester, Nebraska, who created it with two saw blades and some additional metal work.

Mr. Rousek led the effort to create Wachiska Audubon's native prairie protection program in 1982. His successful campaign to preserve Lincoln's 230-acre Nine-Mile Prairie resulted in the protection of a valuable teaching and research grassland for the University of Nebraska and others.

Wachiska owns nine prairies ranging in size from four to 400 acres in Southeast Nebraska. In addition, the group holds conservation easements on 23 tracts of land approaching 400 acres. Wachiska's vision is to share the experience and love of nature—that life may flourish in all its natural diversity.

Prairies owned by Wachiska are open to the public for wildlife viewing, hiking, photography, and enjoyment.

Dalbey-Halleck Prairie Open House

by Margo McKendree, Center for Grassland Studies, UNL
(reprinted with permission from the Center for Grassland Studies, November 2021)

Gray skies and a brief rain shower did not dampen the spirits of the 40-plus individuals attending the Dalbey Prairie open house near Virginia, Nebraska, on September 29. The event included a tour of the prairie with plant identification, a discussion of soil health, and a luncheon at the American Legion Club in Virginia.

The 137-acre prairie is managed by UNL's Center for Grassland Studies to support research, teaching, and outreach. Walt Schacht, interim director of the Center for Grassland Studies, provided a welcome and spoke of Dalbey Prairie being one of the 21 grasslands in the University of Nebraska system. He said the management of the prairie will be assisted by the Dalbey Prairie Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC), a nine-person committee reviewing goals and objectives, advising on prairie management, and becoming involved in programming. The SAC will draw on the expertise of several individuals, units, and organizations within and outside the university who are active and experienced in grassland management, conservation, and education.

According to Dr. David Wedin, professor in the School of Natural Resources and director of Dalbey Prairie and Nine-Mile Prairie, the theme of the celebration was grassland conservation in working agricultural landscapes. Wedin addressed the use of haying and prescribed burns as management tools for prairies and partnerships with state agencies to maintain and enhance biodiversity on prairies. IANR's Agricultural Research Division was represented by Dean Archie Clutter who spoke of the history of the larger Dalbey-Halleck Farm, including past research on the property. He reiterated the university's commitment to the stewardship and maintenance of the prairie. Dean Clutter concluded by saying that the prairie has been assessed as a high priority area for preservation and building integrated systems of agriculture that can be linked to the prairie in the future.

The Wachiska Audubon Society had several members in attendance, each with an interest in prairies and measures taken for their protection and conservation. Bruce Kennedy, a former president of Wachiska, was happy to hear the university kept the best 137 acres of the Dalbey-Halleck Farm and put over 503 acres of the property in a conservation easement before selling it, which is exactly what Wachiska was hoping would happen. Kennedy said, "I want to thank Dr. Clutter for his efforts and the university for doing the absolute positive right thing."

Mark Goes, livestock instructor at Southeast Community College in Beatrice, brought students from his range and forage management class to the event. He stated, "I hope they get an appreciation for the special nature of this piece of ground." He went on to say, "There is tremendous diversity here and the ability to identify a vast array of plants in a very short amount of time in a small area is important. The prairie also provides an

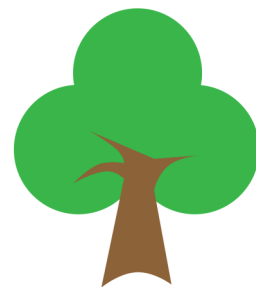
opportunity to gain an appreciation for the different plants, why they are here, what they are doing here, how we can encourage the more positive ones, and how we can discourage the negative ones."

Learn about the Dalbey Prairie, Nine-Mile Prairie, or the Center's prairie management at <https://grassland.unl.edu>.

Join Our Celebration of Trees

by Lorrie Benson, Co-Chair
Faith to Forest Steering Committee

Nearly 30 Lincoln faith communities will be part of Faith to Forest in 2022. This effort, which was sparked by the fact that 2022 is the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day, will include celebrations of every aspect of trees including education, tree-plantings, volunteer opportunities, and more.



Community events begin with a series of five Thursday evening Zoom sessions. We'll kick off on January 6 with a spiritual look at trees and our moral responsibilities to them by former Lincoln pastors Jacob Buchholz and Jen Strickland. **January 13 will feature Justin Evertson with an overview of trees and the role they play in our environment, economy, and communities (see Wachiska's January program on page 1 relating to this talk).** On January 20, Sarah Browning, Bob Henrickson, and Kaylyn Neverve will go into detail on selecting the right tree, Cplanting, and providing establishment care. On January 27, City of Lincoln forester Lorri Grueber will introduce Prairie Pruners, a new volunteer opportunity to learn to prune small trees and then use those skills in city parks. The series will wrap on February 3 with Lincoln City Libraries Director Pat Leach and State Climatologist Martha Shulski reviewing and discussing the Faith to Forest community-read book, *The Future We Choose, A Stubborn Optimist's Guide to Climate Change*.

We're encouraging lots of tree-planting during 2022, especially native or locally adapted trees. For those who can do more or don't have a place to plant a tree, we've worked with the Lincoln Parks Foundation to establish a new Community Forestry Fund, with money going to buy and care for young trees. Faith communities are encouraged to have a Tree Sabbath, and there will be book discussion at the faith community and general community levels.

We're still making plans and adding details. Any faith community is welcome to participate, and individuals are welcome regardless of faith affiliation. Learn more at <https://www.firstplymouth.org/catforest> and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FaithToForest>.

Fall Army Worms

by Roch Gaussoin, Extension Turfgrass Specialist,
Agronomy & Horticulture, UNL

(reprinted with permission from the Center for Grassland Studies November 2021 newsletter)

The devastating outbreak of fall army worms (FAW) in Nebraska decades ago was a repressed memory of widespread devastation for turfgrass managers in Nebraska until 2021.

Army worms are so named because of their inclination of moving en masse to greener pastures once they've depleted their food supply. It is not uncommon for caterpillars to move from field crops into nearby turfgrass.

In late August, FAW egg masses and moths were detected throughout eastern Nebraska. Egg masses (40 in one yard!) were found in Lincoln, and moths were flying abundantly in Omaha. Feeding began 2 - 3 weeks after that and continued for 2 - 4 weeks. Fall army worms aggressively feed on ryegrass, fescues, bentgrass, and bluegrass. Interestingly, social media, primarily Twitter, gave Nebraska Extension faculty a heads up. While nothing could be done until their arrival, the anticipated infestation was largely predictable.

Initial infestations in 2021 were seen in the northern states of the Southeast in early May, reported on Twitter and other outlets, feeding in turfgrass, pastures, and hay fields. That's unusually early for the insect, which does not tolerate cold winters. Overwintering in South America or the southernmost regions of Texas and Florida, the adult moths must slowly make their way north each spring. In 2021, multiple weather events, including a relatively mild winter and lots of tropical storms, resulted in the resilient moths moving rapidly along the eastern seaboard and central U.S. more than "normal."

Social media again gave Nebraskans an indication of the potential for infestations as early as July. When egg masses were first detected in eastern Nebraska, turfgrass managers were alerted via a subscription service (TurfiNfo). Extension faculty were quick to share this information with affected parties, so turf loss associated with a similar infestation more than 20 years ago was largely averted. Lesson learned.



Fall Army Worm

Recent advances in insecticide chemistry targeting turfgrass grubs indicated an unanticipated edge, at least in Nebraska, for FAW control. Turfgrass treated in early summer as a preventative application for grubs with products containing chlorantraniliprole (e.g., Acelepryn) or tetraniliprole (e.g., Tetrino) also exhibited good to excellent FAW control. Both

active ingredients are good for curative control of FAW as well as are the pyrethrin-based insecticides. One cautionary note for pyrethrin, however, is reports of FAW resistance.

Looking into the future with the increasing ability to predict weather patterns, such warm winters, and more tropical storm systems, turfgrass managers have greater opportunities to be proactive in controlling FAW. Managers should consider investing in a sweep net, pay attention to reliable sources like Nebraska Extension for anticipated outbreaks, and study the identification and management of this pest for next season.

Valentine Area Christmas Bird Count

by Jim Ducey

Gordon Warrick and I completed several Christmas Bird Count surveys in the Valentine area on Saturday, December 18.

It was a frigid morning and the initial tally was about 850 Canada geese hunkered down at the Mill Pond, with a few cackling geese present. Approximately 125 house sparrows were active in their brushy winter place at the southeast corner of the area.

Only the white-breasted nuthatch and the junco were present at the City Park.

A unique stop was the Valentine Nature Park (a new site on ebird). Only a red-breasted nuthatch and three flickers were amidst the conifers with juncos and house finch at the feeder of the adjacent assisted living facility.

The final survey was a slow drive of nine miles through town. Eleven species were observed, most notably a merlin sitting on a powerline within the city confines. A dozen rock doves at the livestock yard was the largest count.

Sightings were posted on ebird so included were elapsed time, distance traveled, and other essentials. Additional survey efforts occurred at Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge, with staff there responsible for getting these efforts organized.

Editor's Note: A full listing of Lincoln's Christmas Bird Count, also conducted on Saturday, December 18, will be reported in next month's issue of *The Babbling Brook*, according to Jason (the "Birdnerd") St. Sauver who again organized the event.

"In the end, they will conserve only what they know, know only what they understand, and understand only what they have been taught."

— Baba Dioum

Recycled Plastic

by Richard Peterson

Recycling. Most of us do it so our used cardboard, paper, glass, cans, and plastic can be given a new life. You would be wrong, however, if you thought recycling plastic will make a dent in the world's supply. An October 2021 *Consumer Reports* article, "The BIG Problem with Plastic," by Kevin Loria should be required reading.



As of 2018, of the 35 million tons of plastic waste, only about nine percent was actually recycled. Of what we think we are recycling, 76 percent ends up in the landfill and 16 percent is incinerated. Of the nine percent recycled, most is turned into items that cannot be recycled again. Well-intentioned consumers are partially responsible. "Wishcycling" is tossing every type of plastic in the recycling bin and hoping for the best—that it will be sorted by someone who knows more than they do.

The popular perception that plastic is easily recycled has been shaped for decades by calculated messaging paid for by the petroleum and gas companies that make most of the plastic and the beverage companies that depend on plastic to bottle their products. Recycling plastic has been sold as a means for the consumer to not worry about the problem. The makers of new plastic containers are churning them out far faster than you and I can ever hope slow down. Plastic products are often made of a mixture of chemicals, which can stymie the recycling process, making it harder to isolate the base material. It is far less expensive to manufacture most types of plastic from scratch than to remake old plastic into something new.

In the recycling triangle stamped on the bottom of most items, the numbers 1 and 2 are the most economically easy to recycle. This includes PET plastic (made with polyethylene terephthalate) for water, soda, or other beverages and HDPE plastic (high-density polyethylene) for milk and other jugs. The least recyclable plastics are those triangles numbered 3 - 7 and the majority of plastic used to make bags, plastic wrap, and packaging film. These are incinerated or sent to the landfill.

So how do we go a step beyond "wishcycling"? 1) Bring your own reusable bags to carry home your groceries. 2) Bring your own containers to restaurants to take home leftovers. 3) Do not buy drinks in plastic bottles; there are plenty to choose from in glass or metal containers. 4) Stop using that plastic wrap in the kitchen—put food in a bowl and cover with a plate (we used glass refrigerator containers before Tupperware arrived). 5) Stop buying products packaged in plastic. The list is long, from plastic razors to plastic wrapped pads and tampons, to flushable wipes. How about a bottle deposit on every plastic bottle? Only ten states currently have such a law. For more ideas on how to slow the rising tide, see the *Consumer Reports* article mentioned above at <https://www.consumerreports.org/environment-sustainability/the-big-problem-with-plastic/>.

Flying Squirrels Discovered on Lincoln's East Campus

by Mark Brohman

A few weeks ago, a crew cutting down a dying oak tree on East Campus discovered four flying squirrels. A worker was even able to capture video on his phone of a flying squirrel gliding from the tree. The state's only known population is about 90 miles away in the forests near Indian Cave State Park in Southeast Nebraska. There had been two reports of flying squirrels in Lincoln in the Country Club Neighborhood in 2018 and a sighting in 2019 in the Eastridge Neighborhood. Six sightings were reported in 2020, most in the College View area, with one in the West A Neighborhood and another in the Country Club Neighborhood. The new count is 15 verified and three unverified in Lincoln.

Shaun Dunn, a biologist with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC), said the flying squirrel is very elusive and rare in Nebraska; being small and nocturnal makes them difficult to observe. He hopes to learn where this population came from. There is a chance these are the result of escaped or illegally released pets. Conservation officers from the NGPC have had individuals illegally possessing flying squirrels in Nebraska, and those specimens were from Texas.

While I was in graduate school in the mid 1980s, a fellow student began his master's research on flying squirrels near Indian Cave State Park. He soon switched his interest to pocket gophers because the flying squirrels were evasive and hard to observe. Maybe one day flying squirrels will become a regular sighting like black fox squirrels, red foxes, and coyotes in the Capital City.



Dr. John Carroll of UNL built the nesting box shown above at left. Installation on East Campus is shown in the second photo. UNL will make nesting box plans available on their website soon. *Photos courtesy of Michael Forsberg and Dr. Larkin Powell.*

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

When you write to the City Council, Lancaster County Board, or letters to the editor about environmental concerns, you may want to check for support from the 2050 Comprehensive Plan. It has now been formally adopted. It's called Plan Forward and is on the web at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/20cbd02786a149d3a5448a76b5a143bc/page/Home-Page/>. It is divided into G's (Goals), E's (Elements), and P's (Policies). Among many others, these subjects are of particular interest to Wachiska folks: G7 Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability; G11 Rural Environment; E4 Environmental Resources; P19 Native Prairies; P20 Ecology and Habitat; P21 Floodplains and Riparian Areas, P24 Environmental Resource Protection.

G7 discusses energy use, supply and conservation, the city's goal, and the Climate Action Plan.

G11: "The rural areas in Lancaster County are also appropriate locations for emerging energy production facilities such as wind turbines and solar farms. These industries are compatible with agricultural uses, support the community's sustainability initiatives, and have the potential to be major contributors to the local economy."

E4 makes many excellent points, including this: "Plants and soil work together as a natural solution for carbon sequestration. Healthy soil and plant communities hold carbon in their organic material and keep it from escaping into the atmosphere. Agricultural and development practices that work to protect soils and maintain healthy plant cover are important for reduction of carbon in the atmosphere."

P19: Prairie lovers, check out this section: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/20cbd02786a149d3a5448a76b5a143bc/page/P19-Native-Prairie/>. Here is just a small part: Develop planning guidelines, management techniques, and supporting policies for preserving native prairies and grassland. Include carbon sequestration measurements in all cost-benefit and environmental impact studies.

Coordinate prescribed burn plans among public agencies and review impacts on new urban areas when evaluating development proposals.

Identify opportunities to work with property owners, both public and private, to acquire land or conservation easements that can serve as buffer areas around prairies and other natural areas for management and resource protection as well as support use of federal, state, or local conservation programs.

Investigate means for encouraging native prairie restoration by private and public entities.

Work with homeowner associations, partner organizations, and agencies to increase use of native plants and prairie in landscaping. Educate citizens, increasing their appreciation for the aesthetics of native plantings and raising awareness of the benefits of increasing such plantings that would foster pollinator habitat, sensible water use, flood control, and carbon sequestration. Lincoln is committed to the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

P20 notes: "Continue cooperation between public and private entities to protect habitat for threatened and endangered species. Current efforts include those of the Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Nebraska, and others."

How are we doing after the Glasgow meetings? Not so great. The United Nations tallied it up: Current plans would lead to about 240 percent more coal, 57 percent more oil, and 71 percent more gas production in 2030 than would be consistent with limiting global warming to the international goal of 1.5 Centigrade. Read more at <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/10/1103472>.

Upcoming Programs at SCPAC

by Kevin Poague, Operations Manager
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center

Snug as a BUG!

Saturday, January 22, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Explore the world of what bugs and other creatures do to survive the winter under the leaves and inside logs. This family-friendly program begins with an outdoor walk to search for tracks and ends inside with an investigation of rotten logs, decomposition, and more. Space limited. \$10/family.

BIRDS & BREWS: The Whistle Pig Edition

Wednesday, February 2, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Save the date for the return of our BIRDS & BREWS series with this non-bird focused look at our hibernating friend, the groundhog. There will be snacks, an informative and fun presentation, and delicious brews provided from local brewers. Space limited. \$10/adult (21+).

Registration is required for both programs. More information can be found on our website at:

<https://springcreek.audubon.org/events>.

Questions to 402-797-2301; scp@audubon.org.

Public Officials

President Joe Biden

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>

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Wash. DC phone: 202-225-6435 Fax: 202-225-0207
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Governor Pete Ricketts

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
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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.**

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- ___ \$35 Family Friend
- ___ \$50 Black-capped Chickadee Friend
- ___ \$100 Northern Cardinal Friend
- ___ \$250 Western Meadowlark Friend
- ___ \$500 Bald Eagle Friend
- ___ \$1,000 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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The Babbling Brook is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

Wachiska Accepting 2022 Nature Calendars

Wachiska continues to accept new 2022 nature calendars to be passed along to those who haven't received any calendars. Please drop them by the Wachiska office. It's always good to call to be sure someone is here. Unfortunately, we cannot accept old calendars due to pandemic restrictions.



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 www.WachiskaAudubon.org

Wachiska Audubon's annual meeting PowerPoint presentation is now on the chapter's website. Look for "Click here to see highlights from the 2021 annual meeting" when you go to the homepage.

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2022

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Director at Large	**
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*Denotes Board member

**Directors at Large to be elected at January Board mtg.

For contact information of officers and committee chairs, call the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846.

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Remember to shop for deals at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app. Sign up for AmazonSmile and select Wachiska Audubon Society as your preferred charity at [smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0229888](https://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0229888). Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price of eligible purchases to Wachiska Audubon at no 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**.

