2019 NPA Annual Convention Agenda

April 5-6, 2019 - Holiday Inn Convention Center,

110 2nd Ave., Kearney, NE 68848

(REVISED 3/20/19-subject to change)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

8:00 a.m. Registration Desk Opens Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

> 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Daily Publishers Meeting 9:00-9:30 a.m. - Coffee/Pastries 9:30-10:30 a.m. - Meeting Location: STATEROOM C

10:45-11:45 a.m. Current state of Nebraska's tax, budget and school finance debates OpenSky Policy Institute - Chuck Brown & Renee Fry Location: STATEROOM C

12 Noon - 1:00 p.m. BUFFET LUNCH Casual salad bar lunch buffet - meet new newspaper people, catch up with friends Location: BALLROOM I

1:15-2:15 p.m. InDesign Techniques to Get Your Newspaper Out Faster Russell Viers, Certified Adobe Instructor Location: STATEROOM C

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Survival Guide for Community Newspapers John Hatcher, Dir. of Journalism, University of Minnesota-Duluth Location: STATEROOM A

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Legal Hotline Q&A Session Shawn Renner, Cline Williams law firm Location: STATEROOM B

1:45 - 4:00 p.m. AFTERNOON BREAK

Grab a cookie or iced tea before heading to the next session Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

2:30-3:30 p.m. Solutions Journalism Michelle Hassler, UNL College of Journalism Location: STATEROOM C 2:30-3:30 p.m. OnePress Certification Session Violet Kirk, Sales Manager, NPAS/OnePress Location: STATEROOM A

3:45-4:15 p.m. NPA Annual Business Meeting NNA report - NNA President, Andrew Johnson 4:15-4:45 p.m. NPAS/OnePress Annual Business Meeting (Back-to-back meetings) Location: STATEROOM C

5:30-6:30 p.m. Social Hour-Cash Bar Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

6:30 p.m. OMAHA WORLD-HERALD AWARDS BANQUET

Welcome: Lt. Governor, Mike Foley, NNA President, Andrew Johnson Keynote Speaker: Nebraska Senator Julie Slama, District 1 Presentation of Omaha World-Herald Community Service & Service to Agriculture Awards; Naming of Master Editor-Publisher Location: BALLROOM I (Master Editor-Publisher Reception following banquet)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Opens Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. General Session "The Richest Man in Town" V.J. Smith, professional speaker/author Location: BALLROOM I

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Creating Modern Infographics Using Illustrator & Other Sources Russell Viers, Certified Adobe Instructor Location: STATEROOM C

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Reporter's Bootcamp: Finding & Writing Better Stories John Hatcher, Dir. of Journalism, University of Minnesota-Duluth Location: STATEROOM A 10:15-11:15 a.m. Increase Sales Performance NOW Carol Grubbe, TownNews.com Location: ROOM B

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. AWARDS LUNCHEON Awards presented for Outstanding Young Nebraska Journalist, Harpst Leadership Nebraska, Golden Pica Pole; recognition of NPA Foundation scholarship recipients Location: BALLROOM I

1:15-2:15 p.m. Editing & Altering PDFs Russell Viers, Certified Adobe Instructor Location: STATEROOM C

1:15-2:15 p.m. Getting Better Interviews: Honing Your Interview Skills John Hatcher, Dir. of Journalism, University of Minnesota-Duluth Location: STATEROOM A

1:15-2:15 p.m. OnePress Certification Session Violet Kirk, Sales Manager, NPAS/OnePress Location: STATEROOM B (repeat of Friday 2:30 p.m. session)

1:15-2:15 p.m. Using Video at Your Newspaper Jake Higgins, Hartington Cedar Co. News, Eric Eckert, York News-Times, Steve Marik, York News-Times Location: EXECUTIVE ROOM (2nd Floor)

1:45 - 4:00 p.m. AFTERNOON BREAK Grab a cookie or iced tea before heading to the next session Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

2:30-3:30 p.m. Creating Modern Infographics Using Illustrator & Other Sources Russell Viers, Certified Adobe Instructor Location: STATEROOM C (repeat of 10:15 a.m. session)

(agenda continued)

ONEpress



2:30-3:30 p.m. Increase Sales Performance NOW Carol Grubbe, TownNews.com Location: STATEROOM B (repeat of 10:15 a.m. session)

2:30-3:30 p.m. Save Your Readers! Making School Board, City Council & Other Meetings More Interesting John Hatcher, Dir. of Journalism, University of Minnesota-Duluth Location: STATEROOM A

3:45-4:45 p.m. GREAT IDEA EXCHANGE

Bring ideas/examples on ways your paper has generated new revenue, increased subscriptions, engaged your readers, used social media. *Moderator, NNA President, AndrewJohnson* Location: STATEROOM C

5:30-6:30 p.m. Social Hour - Cash Bar Location: PRE-FUNCTION/ATRIUM AREA

6:30 p.m. BEITER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARDS BANQUET

Better Newspaper Contest winners announced; Photography, Advertising & Editorial of the Year Awards; Daily Publisher & Sweepstakes Awards; installation of new NPA/OnePress officers & board members. Raffle prizes drawing, workshop attendance drawing, Mr/Ms X winner announced Location: BALLROOM I

> Hospitality Room - (Sat night only) after BNC Awards Banquet in ROOM 175

Workshop Drawing: Chance to win an Apple iPad! (32GB, Wi-Fi)

For each workshop you attend, your name will be entered into the drawing. <u>To qualify, you must</u>: Sign in on sign-in form & Complete & sign an evaluation form Winner announced at Saturday banquet. Need not be present to win.

STOP BY THESE EXHIBITOR TABLES IN THE ATRIUM AREA:



Nebraska Press Women is a nonprofit, statewide community of professional communicators that welcomes women and men, as well as Nebraska college students studying in the communications field. Founded in 1946, NPW provides professional growth opportunities and offers a forum of activities of interest to communicators.

Enter their drawing for a chance to win a Nebraska photo!



At TownNews, we believe that local media organizations can thrive - and continue to be vital to the communities they serve - now and into the future. We equip you with the services, technology and guidance to flourish in a volatile digital landscape. Transform your business - grow revenue, expand audience and engagement, and enhance efficiency and security - with the backing of a partner that's deeply rooted in the media industry.



UNL Nebraska Digital Newspaper Project

From 2007 to the present, the NE Digital Newspaper Project has been digitizing historically significant Nebraska newspapers (in English and foreign languages) from various regions of Nebraska for inclusion in Nebraska Newspapers,

http://nebnewspapers.unl.edu, and in Chronicling America, a freely available full-text database at the Library of Congress, located at http://chroniclingamerica.loc. gov. This project is funded by Natl. Endowment for the Humanities and UNL.



"A Likely Story" Column by Roger Clark

Looking for a regular weekly or bi-weekly column to publish in your newspaper? "A Likely Story" column offers humor, insight, entertainment and the occasional nugget of wisdom. Written by Roger Clark, from Valley Center, KS, Roger is talking to interested papers throughout Nebraska. Check out <u>http://alikelystoryblog.com/</u>, and stop by Roger's table in the NPA Registration area.



Two days of workshops, networking and awards - April 5-6, in Kearney

Meet the experts. Sessions are packed with top-notch professionals, giving you the opportunity to learn from some of the industry's best and brightest.

Get inspired. Take home actionable ideas and solutions that you can implement at your newspaper right away to boost revenue, improve news content and benefit your community.

Socialize, network. This is the largest annual gathering of Nebraska newspaper people.

Best deal around. Take advantage of low convention registration fees & discounted meal prices! (A bargain when compared to other press association conventions!)

John Hatcher - Writing and Reporting



John Hatcher is director of the journalism program at the University of Minnesota Duluth and received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications. He was the education director at the Center for Community Journalism in upstate New York. From 1992 to 2003, he worked for The Daily Messenger, a small daily newspaper in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. John leads training sessions for press associations and newspapers in the U.S. and Canada, as well as online webinars through the Newspaper Academy.

- Survival Guide for Community Newspapers. Veterans and novice editors alike will walk away with valuable information to improve your work at newspapers. Friday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.
- **Reporter's Bootcamp: Finding & Writing Better Stories.** John is the best when it comes to coaching and training newspaper reporters and editors. Join him as he discusses what every reporter has to know to get better leads and write better stories. **Saturday Session, 10:15-11:15 a.m.**
- Getting Better Interviews: Honing Your Interview Skills. In this session, John will cover the basics, and throw in some veteran tips to improve your interview skills immediately. Whether you are a relative newcomer or veteran reporter, you'll go away with solid information to make you a better reporter. Saturday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.
- Save Your Readers! Making School Board, City Council & Other Meetings More Interesting. We've all been there – the dreaded public meeting. Sometimes school board meetings, county commission meetings and other public meetings can be dreadful to sit through, much less report. Reporters and editors will want to hear what John has to say about those meetings - your articles don't have to be boring! Saturday Session, 2:30-3:30 p.m

Russell Viers - Adobe Certified Instructor, Trainer, Consultant



Russell Viers is an Adobe Certified Instructor in InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator who specializes in print production. He started his career in 1981 as a reporter/photographer for a small daily newspaper and through the years has been involved in most aspects of publishing. A professional Adobe trainer since 1997, he travels the world sharing his expertise with newspaper and magazine professionals to help them work faster and create better files. Russell is a frequent speaker at press association conventions and international events.

• InDesign Techniques to Get Your Paper Out Faster. Are you spending too much time building ads and pages? Russell will cover some key techniques that will cut time from your weekly production cycle, allowing you more time for selling ads, taking more photos or writing more stories. Friday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Russell Viers - cont.

- Creating Modern Infographics. Are you ever in need of an infographic to support a story? Maybe you need a bar chart or pie chart, but don't have a lot of time? Using Illustrator, Russell will show you how it's done. Saturday Sessions, 10:15-11:15 a.m. & 2:30-3:30 p.m. (repeat sessions).
- Editing & Altering PDFs. This session takes a practical, nuts-and-bolts look at working with PDFs. Russell shows how to look at a PDF and understand what's going on, diagnose potential problems, and fix those problems, with tips on editing PDFs in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. Saturday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

V. J. Smith - Professional Speaker - "The Richest Man in Town" - Sat. A.M. General Session



V. J. Smith is a professional speaker and published author. He graduated from South Dakota State University in 1978 and spent the decade of the 1980s working for the Allied Signal Aerospace Company in Kansas City. He returned to his alma mater in 1990, working for six years in the SDSU Athletic Department. He was appointed executive director of the SDSU Alumni Association in 1996. In January 2007 he left that position to pursue a career in professional speaking. Smith travels the country and makes over 100 speaking appearances a year. In March 2014, Meetings and Conventions Magazine named V. J. as one of the favorite speakers of meeting planners throughout America. He is the author of the best-selling book, "The Richest Man in Town." In November 2018, V. J. was elected to the State Senate of South Dakota by a landslide vote of 61%. He and his wife Julie currently reside

in Brookings, SD. Saturday General Session, 9:00-10:00am.

Great Idea Exchange - Share ideas, get ideas!



Bring your best ideas that have worked for your newspaper - promotions, special sections or niche products that have generated revenue; ways to increase subscribers; tips on engaging your readers, and more. Learn & share. *NNA President, Andrew Johnson will moderator this always-popular session.* **Saturday Session, 3:45-4:45 p.m.**

OpenSky Policy Institute - Current state of Nebraska's tax, budget & school finance debates



OpenSky Policy Institute is a nonpartisan think tank that examines state fiscal policy. They will provide an update about the current state of Nebraska's tax, budget and school finance debates. Among the topics OpenSky will discuss are conversations around the Legislature's efforts to balance the state budget and to provide property tax relief. **Friday Session, 10:45-11:45 a.m.**

Friday Session Added! OnePress - Sales Certification Training in network & digital advertising



OnePress Sales Manager, Violet Kirk, will lead an abbreviated certification training session for member newspapers that couldn't attend one of the Fall 2018 sessions she took around the state. Violet will cover topics from revenue-sharing networks to strategy for implementing targeted digital advertising. In addition to receiving sales training in the 2x2, classified, online and digital networks, OnePress certified newspapers will receive specially branded sales

materials to display in their offices and for use by their advertising staff. Friday Session, 2:30-3:30 p.m. & Saturday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m. (repeat sessions).

 Don't miss Friday's lunch!
Meet new newspaper people, catch up with friends

 Casual lunch buffett:

Tossed salad greens & spinach; assorted meat toppings; crudites;

Tossed salad greens & spinach; assorted meat toppings; crudites; cheese, mushrooms, olives, croutons, tomatoes; German Potato Salad; Pasta Vinaigrette Salad; assorted breads.



Michelle Hassler - UNL College of Journalism & Mass Communications



Michelle Carr Hassler is an associate professor of practice in journalism at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communications. A McCook native, she spent most of her professional journalism career at the Lincoln Journal and Lincoln Journal Star. She's been teaching at UNL for 20 years.

• **Solutions Journalism.** This presentation will explore the concept and practice of solutions journalism, an emerging model that is being adopted by a variety of news outlets -- from The New York Times to the Rappahannock News in rural Virginia. You'll find out why journalists like to write it and audiences like to read it. **Friday Session, 2:30-3:30 p.m.**

Using Video at Your Newspaper - topics will include:

- Equipment used to shoot and edit stories & basic video shooting techniques
- How social media can be used to promote/create interest for video stories
- Why video is important for newspapers as they continue to transition into more digital
- What to look for when determining if a story should include video

Learn video tips & tricks from two Nebraska papers that use a lot of video! Jake Higgins, sports editor, Hartington Cedar Co. News; Steve Marik, sports reporter/writer, York News-Times; and Eric Eckert, digital director, York New-Times will share their expertise. Saturday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Legal Hotline Q&A - Shawn Renner, Cline Williams law firm



Cline Williams' Attorney, Shawn Renner, advises media on free speech, open meetings and other issues. Join this informal Q&A session as Shawn reviews some of the more frequent questions and topics that the Legal Hotline received from our newspapers over the past year. This always-popular session covers topics from the Nebraska Press Association's Legal Hotline, a free service to our member newspapers that provides solid, practical advice with the goal of preventing legal problems. **Bring your legal questions! Friday Session, 1:15-2:15 p.m.**

Carol Grubbe - Sales, Communication - TownNews.com



Carol has worked in media for over 20 years. First in radio sales, then in newspaper as a retail sales person, then as niche publication and online sales director for Rust Communications. She now is the Senior Regional Sales Manager with TownNews.com, a software company for all media companies, providing digital solutions for her clients whether on web, print or mobile. About a year ago, Carol received certification by Personality Insights to teach effective communication through DISC assessments, and it has helped her have the best two years in sales she's ever had!

Increase Sales Performance NOW! Newspapers were built on informing their communities. Communication is a KEY element. Now, more than ever, it is SO important to BOOST SALES. Carol will teach you a simple and easy way to understand basic communications patterns by asking TWO questions that will change EVERYTHING. You won't want to miss this session! Saturday Sessions, 10:15-11:15 a.m. & 2:30-3:30 p.m. (repeat sessions).



Make your NPA Convention hotel reservations now!

The NPA Annual Convention is Friday & Saturday, April 5 & 6, 2019, in Kearney at the Holiday Inn Convention Center.

There are two other large events in Kearney the same weekend as our convention, and it's likely that hotel rooms in Kearney will sell out. So please, MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATION right away!

Block room reservations close March 7. NPA Convention rate will be honored after March 7, *subject to availability*.



- NPA CONVENTION STANDARD ROOM RATE: \$99.95 p/night+tax (standard room is 1 King or 2 Queen; room can accommodate 1-4 people; no additional fee p/person).
- TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: You must call the main (Kearney) hotel switchboard at 308-237-5971. (NPA rate not available through worldwide reservations or online).
- **BE SURE TO MENTION** "Nebraska Press Association Convention" when you register to ensure group rate. **Block room reservations close March 7.**
- COMPLIMENTARY HOTEL PARKING.

Holiday Inn & Convention Center 110 2nd Avenue Kearney, NE 68845 308-237-5971

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Hotel Features

- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Complimentary Business Center with Print & Fax Services
- HD Flat Screen TVs with DVD Players
- Complimentary DVD Library
- Microwaves & Refrigerators in Every Room
- Indoor Water Center with Two Adult Slides, Children 's Slides & Whirlpool
- Video Game Room
- Complimentary Fitness Center
- All Non-Smoking Rooms
- Gift Shop
- Convention & Meetings Space for up to 700 people.

MORE





The Holiday Inn® Kearney features a full-service restaurant and lounge. With amenities like free shuttle service within city limits, an on-site fitness center with weights and cardio equipment and a video game room for kids, it 's easy to see why we're the first choice in Kearney 's finest lodging facilities.





Nebraska Press Association with Sponsorship from OnePress



Annual Convention, April 5-6, 2019 - Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Kearney, NE

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS Please read carefully! EXTENDED REGISTRATION DEADLINE (FIRM)

1. Each convention registrant (newspaper employee) must pay a registration fee (\$10.00 one day; \$20.00 both days) before meal tickets are purchased. Affiliate and Associate Members (and their spouses) must pay registration fee before meals are purchased.

2. Make check payable to NEBRASKA PRESS ASSOCIATION. Mail THIS FORM and YOUR METHOD OF PAYMENT today. No Convention meals will be billed. Payment at time of registration: Check, Mastercard or Visa.

3.Administrative Processing Fee of \$5.00 charged if you cancel reservations or meal tickets **prior to March 27.**

4. Registration and meal deadline is March 27. A \$10.00 late fee will be added to registrations received after March 27. NO cancellations after March 27. No refunds after March 27.

5. Indicate your entree selection from choices shown at right of each meal price. If you select a vegetarian entree, you'll receive a meal slip with your registration badge, which you must present to your waiter. Vegetarian meals must be ordered on the registration form by the March 27 (extended) deadline.

6. If you are attending workshops, you must submit this registration form & registration fee even if you do not plan to attend any meal functions.

7. Non-newspaper employee spouses and dependent children are exempt from registration fee, but need to register for meals. If non-employee spouses attend any workshops, they need to pay the registration fee. If anyone not registered attends workshops, they will be billed after convention. \$10.00 for one day; \$20.00 for both days.

Newspaper Name:								
NAME (Please print/type) Indicate your meal selections NO SHOWS WILL BE CHARGED!	First-time convention attendee, or haven't attended in awhile?	Conve Regist Fri.	ration Sat.	Friday Lunch Salad Bar Buffet	Friday Banquet Windsor Loin <u>OR</u> Shrimp Fettucine Alfredo	Saturday Lunch Chicken Piccata OR Vegetarian Entree	Saturday Banquet Beef Tenderloin <u>OR</u> Vegetarian Entree	Total all columns across for each registrant. Each registrant must pay a registration fee.
Registration DEADLINE EXTENDED to MARCH 27 (FIRM DEADLINE)	"X" BOX BELOW				Indicate Your Entree Selection	Indicate Your Entree Selection	Indicate Your Entree Selection	
1)		\$10	\$10	\$12	Shrimp	\$16 OR Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} OR Veg	
2)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 ^{Pork} OR Shrimp	\$16 ^{Chicken} OR Veg	\$30	
3)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 ^{Pork} Shrimp	\$16 ^{Chicken} OR	\$30 ^{Beef} Veg	
4)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 ^{Pork} OR Shrimp	\$16 Chicken OR Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} _OR_Veg	
5)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 Pork OR Shrimp	Chicken \$16 OR Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} Veg	
6)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 ^{Pork} OR Shrimp	\$16 Chicken OR Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} OR Veg	
7)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 Pork OR Shrimp	\$16 ^{Chicken} OR Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} Veg	
8)		\$10	\$10	\$12	\$21 ^{Pork} OR Shrimp_	\$16 ^{Chicken} Veg	\$30 ^{Beef} Veg	
9)		\$10	\$10	\$12	Pork	\$16 OR Veg	\$30 OR Veg	
You may charge your NPA convention registration if your total is over \$200.00 VISAMastercard Expiration date: Card Number: Security Code: Signature:Billing ZIP Code: Print Name as it appears on card:								
Please return this registration form and check to:								

Nebraska Press Association

845 "S" Street, Lincoln, NE 68508-1226

If you have no mail service, fax (402-476-2942) or email (nebpress@nebpress.com) registration form to the NPA office.

2019 NPA Convention - Menus

Once again this year, NPA has discounted all meal prices by 35%!

FRIDAY NETWORKING LUNCH (Fri, Apr 5):

- Salad Bar Buffet tossed salad greens & fresh spinach salad. Choice of three dressings. Assorted toppings of julienne of ham & turkey, shredded cheese, sliced mushrooms, diced tomatoes, sliced olives, croutons, fresh crudités, German Potato Salad & Pasta Vinaigrette Salad.
- Assorted Breads
- Coffee/Iced Tea/Milk

FRIDAY AWARDS BANQUET (Fri, Apr 5):

- House Salad w/Vermont Maple Syrup Vinaigrette
- Smoked Windsor Loin roasted with a balsamic demi-glace reduction; cheese potatoes al gratin; seasonal vegetables <u>OR</u>
- Shrimp Fettucine Alfredo fresh egg noodles tossed in a garlic parmesan cream sauce with marinated tiger prawns & sautéed broccoli
- Assorted Breads
- Dessert Carrot Cake
- Coffee/Iced Tea/Milk

SATURDAY AWARDS LUNCHEON (Sat, Apr 6):

- House Salad w/Vermont Maple Syrup Vinaigrette
- Chicken Piccata Lightly dusted chicken breast sautéed & served with lemon & white wine caper sauce & butter; served with angel hair pasta; seasonal vegetables <u>OR</u>
- Vegetarian Entree
- Assorted Breads
- Coffee/Iced Tea/Milk

SATURDAY AWARDS BANQUET (Sat, Apr 6):

- House Salad w/Vermont Maple Syrup Vinaigrette
- Vegetarian Entrée OR
- Beef Tenderloin Medallions pan seared & topped with a portabella mushroom balsamic cream sauce; mashed potatoes; seasonal vegetables.
- Assorted Breads
- Dessert German Chocolate Cake
- Coffee/Iced Tea/Milk

(REV 03/11/19)



SANDHILL CRANES MIGRATION VIEWING & PHOTOGRAPHY

Every March/April, more than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes – more than 80 percent of the world's population – converge on the Platte River Valley to fuel-up before continuing north to their nesting grounds. National Geographic named this annual migration as one of North America's two greatest natural wildlife phenomena, drawing people from across the U.S. and internationally.

Members and friends of the Nebraska Press Association will view Sandhill Cranes from three separate viewing blinds on land owned by the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP). The PRRIP is a collaborative program that addresses the needs of four threatened and endangered species using the Platte River Basin.

Thursday, April 4 | Kearney, NE — Only 30 spots available —

\$40/per person (10 people p/blind, pre-registered)

Yes! I want to attend the 2019 NPA Foundation Fundraiser! Name(s):

Amount enclosed:

Cost: \$40/per person. Checks payable to NPA Foundation. Contributions are tax-deductible. Please return registration form and payment to: Nebraska Press Association, 845 S Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

More Truo

ITINERARY

5:15 – 5:45 pm: Those who have pre-registered/pre-paid for the event will meet at the Holiday Inn Convention Center (110 2nd Ave, Kearney, NE) to load carpool vehicles for the drive to crane viewing blinds near Gibbon and Alda. There are three separate blinds (maximum 10 people per blind). Those going to the Alda blind will leave at 5:15pm.

6:00 pm: Arrive at the blinds.

6:15 – 8:00 pm: Crane viewing.

8:45 pm: Return to hotel; leave for Ice Cream Social at Cash-wa Distributing in Kearney (attendance optional).

GETTING TO THE CRANE VIEWING BLINDS

Three Headwaters Corp staff members will meet attendees at the hotel and lead carpool vehicles to the blinds. A few people can ride with Headwaters staff, but attendees must make carpool arrangements to the blinds. Trucks or vans are recommended for carpool vehicles, versus smaller cars.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Weather in Central Nebraska in April is unpredictable, and it could be very chilly. The group will be standing in unheated blinds, so dressing in layers is recommended, so you can remove layers if it is too warm. It's better to wear too much than not enough.

WHAT TO WEAR

- Warmest coat/clothing you have, including long underwear.
- Warmest boots you have, along with wool/synthetic socks (avoid cotton).
- Very warm mittens or gloves.
- Stocking cap or insulated hat.
- Please wear dark clothing to help blend with surroundings when walking to/from the blinds.

WHAT TO BRING

- Binoculars.
- Camera and/or video camera. Absolutely NO flash photography is allowed during viewing. Monopods are recommended; tripods are DISCOURAGED.
- NO flashlights are allowed.

