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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has arrived and you are no doubt polishing your binoculars and getting ready to enjoy the excitement of migration. While you are out scouting warblers, IOS is busy organizing more exciting opportunities for you.

We have already scheduled the first annual statewide fall hawk watch which will afford us a snapshot view of hawk movement within Illinois. We are also organizing a breeding season count that will provide valuable nesting information for researchers.

Perhaps you are excited about a birding project that you would like to share with other birders. Or perhaps you would like to help in some of our projects. Either way, let us know. The need for volunteers continues and we welcome your efforts.

Eric Walters

ABOUT OUR COVER ILLUSTRATOR

David Athans drew the Sprague's Pipit, a bird of the short-grass prairie which occurred in Illinois during the spring of 1992. Athans, a member of the Chicago Ornithological Society, has exhibited his drawings at the Midwest Birding Symposium and also sells his works through Wild Birds Unlimited. Athans' interest in art was rekindled as a result of his birding experiences. He accepts commissioned work and can be contacted at 708/388-0285.

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