## **MEADOWLARK**

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- Vernon Kleen

## President's Message

You're new to Illinois, a beginning birder, or want to find a LeConte's Sparrow in the state. No problem. Just get your book, "A Bird Finding and Site Guide to Illinois." But there is no such book on your birding shelves. In fact, one doesn't exist.

When we organized IOS, we discussed someday publishing a site guide for Illinois. Similar books exist for nearby states such as Minnesota and Wisconsin. These guides help intrepid birders find the species they seek and also introduce them to new sites.

Perhaps it is time to begin thinking of a way to approach such a project for Illinois. A comprehensive guide would take a team of people to organize information and write, publish, and distribute the book. The process could take years to complete. Nevertheless, if you wish such a guide existed and are excited about becoming involved, let me know. Someday you may have the pleasure of sitting back in your favorite chair reading the book that you played a part in helping create.

Eric Walters

## About our cover:

Staff illustrator Brian K. Willis drew the Cooper's Hawk at a nest site. Featured in this issue is an article about a successful nesting of Cooper's Hawk in Jackson Park near downtown Chicago.

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