

# MEADOWLARK

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## President's Message

Birding has become America's second most popular hobby, according to a recent government survey. That raises the question: How can IOS help new birders? Our journal certainly helps by providing site guides, field notes, and other articles that can improve birding skills.

But there's more we can do. We could, for instance, offer workshops and field trips geared toward new birders. The workshops would introduce beginners to aspects of birding that might take years for them to learn on their own. IOS would also benefit by gaining new members and more insight from those with varying degrees of skills and interest in birding.

If you're excited by this vision and would like to be involved, let me know. And if you're a new birder, let us know how we can help.

*Eric Walters*

## About our cover:

Staff illustrator Brian K. Willis drew the Osprey, which summered near Rockford, Illinois in 1995. See Field Notes for specifics.

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