

# MEADOWLARK

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**Note:** The Index to *Meadowlark* Volume 18 will be published online at [www.illinoisbirds.org](http://www.illinoisbirds.org)

## About Our Cover:

Matt McKim-Louder created this drawing of an Anhinga. Read his story in this issue on the first documented nesting record of Anhinga in Illinois, plus his research looking for Swainson's Warblers in Illinois. McKim-Louder received an IOS grant to help defray costs of his research. IOS appreciates his artistic, writing and scientific talents.

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## Guest Essay, continued

The public's attitude about nature began to change. Instead of only consuming the forests and prairies, people wanted to save them. They also demanded the government put a stop to pollution and take steps to protect the environment. People also sought out ways to study and enjoy the outdoors. Our nature clubs and groups swelled in size as people joined and new groups formed including the Illinois Ornithological Society.

Today, we are fortunate those few birders and nature zealots who did exist remained steadfast and gave guidance to the growing legion of birders, photographers and outdoor enthusiasts. In addition, new books, optics and tours evolved in response to the new attitude.

I really enjoy our present state of birding in Illinois and have no desire to go back to the 50s and 60s. I have pleasant memories of that time but I also remember the misery. I encourage everyone to enjoy the moment. Find pleasure in the birds and habitats of Illinois and spread the joy to others. Stay active in IOS.

— Jon Duerr is an IOS board member and the retired executive director of the Kane County Forest Preserve District. A forest preserve in Kane County has been named after him.

## A note from the editor:

### Remembering Arlo Raim through the eyes of others

Likely most of you did not know Arlo Raim, nor ever met him. Yet he was one of, if not the best, bird tracker in the world – and one of few who truly practiced conservation.

Raim (1943-2010), was tragically killed by a Canadian National Railway train on 20 August 2010 in Pratt's Wayne Woods, DuPage County. He died doing what he loved most — listening with headphones for a cardinal fitted with a radio transmitter. The death stunned those who worked closely with him.

I had heard about this quiet, eccentric man, even met him at a Middlefork River Valley Christmas Bird Count.

But it wasn't until I went to his memorial ceremony that I realized what a great loss Raim

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