



Illinois Ornithological Society

Publisher

Illinois Ornithological Society
Robert Montgomery, President
Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor
Mary Hennen, Vice-President
Michael Hogg, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Steve Bailey
Vic Berardi
Mary Hennen
Michael Hogg
Keith McMullen
Robert Montgomery
Joe Suchecki
Douglas Stotz
Geoff Williamson

Recording Secretary

Denis Bohm

Associate Editors

David B. Johnson
Peter Lowther
Christine Williamson

Art Editor

Denis Kania

Staff Photographers

Joe B. Milosevich, Dennis Oehmke

Staff Illustrators

David Athans, Brian K. Willis

Pre-Press Production

Kathy Ade

Printing

CityWide Printing
DesPlaines, Illinois

Membership Secretary

Joan Palinscar

Editorial Advisory Board

Laurence C. Binford
Dale Birkenholz
H. David Bohlen
Kenneth J. Brock, Victoria Byre
Robert T. Chapel
Mary Hennen, Scott Hickman
L. Barrie Hunt
Vernon M. Kleen
Scott K. Robinson
W. Douglas Robinson
Robert Szafoni, David Willard

Letter from the Editor

In this issue, we feature a new column called Avian Studies in Illinois. Mike Ward of the Illinois Natural History Survey has agreed to write periodic summaries of the unique bird research being done in our state; there's lots going on out there that we birders don't know about, and Mike is helping bring you that information. For instance, did you know that Mike has banded more than 100 Yellow-headed Blackbirds in northern Illinois this summer for a study he's doing on the type of wetlands this state-endangered bird prefers for nesting? Look for more about this research in a future issue.

In the meantime, we'd like to hear from others of you who are researching birds in Illinois. Send me a short synopsis of your research and what you hope to gain from it, as Elizabeth delaBaume did with her Botanic Garden waterfowl monitoring project, also included in this issue. My address is: 967 Braeburn Road, Mundelein, IL 60060. My email is sdevore@ais.net.

When data are compiled from these studies, we'll let you know how to learn more about the results and what they mean for birds and birders in Illinois. With this Avian Studies column, *Meadowlark* can serve as a venue for scientists who want to share what they are doing, but aren't ready to publish the detailed results. In turn, we birders can help provide them information from sites we regularly visit.

Sheryl De Vore