



## ILLINOIS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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### President's Message

As we look at ways to improve IOS' offerings to our membership, it struck me that a significant part of our membership is interested in international birding, a topic we do not touch in the *Meadowlark*.

Many of our members travel abroad on business and for pleasure. Some of our members take birding trips abroad every year. In recent months members have returned from birding trips to Europe, the Caribbean, Africa, Mexico and Central America, among other regions for which I'm not aware. The 2004 ABA List Report lists more than half a dozen Illinois birders with World lists exceeding 2500. Our professional members conduct biodiversity assessments in South America and conduct field work in Africa and China.

For several years IOS has run trips to Mexico and Costa Rica under the leadership of active members Dave Johnson and Chris Williamson. These trips were well-received.

My question to you the members is should we continue to run international birding tours? Should we include international content in the *Meadowlark* and in *Wings Over the Prairie*? Do you want to read about what scientists from Illinois are doing in other countries?

We would appreciate your input. Please respond to either me at mhkiwi@aol.com or to our Chief Editor, Sheryl DeVore at sheryl.devore@comcast.net. We look forward to hearing from you about this matter as well as others you think are important to the Illinois Ornithological Society.

*Good birding.*

Michael Hogg

President

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