



# Illinois Ornithological Society

## **Publisher**

Illinois Ornithological Society  
**Robert Montgomery**, President  
**Sheryl De Vore**, Chief Editor  
**Renee Baade**, Vice-President  
**Michael Hogg**, Treasurer

## **Board of Directors**

Renee Baade  
Steve Bailey  
Mary Hennen  
Michael Hogg  
David B. Johnson  
Robert Montgomery  
Joe Suchecki  
Eric Walters  
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

## *From the Editor*

### *Of volunteers and Web sites*

While glancing at the title Page of *Meadowlark*, something occurred to me that many of you may not realize. The average amount of time a volunteer stays with an organization is less than one year. But when I look at the title page every quarter to prepare for the next issue, most of the same names are on that page. What does that mean? It means the average time IOS volunteers stay with us is at least five years. That's a major statement about our organization.

Consider that David Athans, Brian Willis, and Denis Kania have been volunteering their time since our first issue to prepare illustrations for us, and that Joe Milosevich has kept sending us his great photos, and that Dave Johnson has kept writing stories and doing the Christmas Bird Count for six years! I could go on, but you get the point.

The only other organization I have volunteered for as long as the Illinois Ornithological Society is Ryerson Woods. This organization also keeps its volunteers much longer than the average. I've been there 10 years.

So what are both of these groups doing right? I think it's a combination of being committed to worthwhile goals, carrying out those goals, and constantly evaluating the organization to make sure it knows what it is and what it wants to be — and what its members want. That and repeating again and again how much the volunteers are appreciated. So thank you, again, volunteers, for all your work on *Meadowlark* and IOS.

A relatively new volunteer, Mary Hennen, has secured permission for IOS to have a Web Site connected to the prestigious Chicago Academy of Sciences Home Page. She'll be the IOS WebMistress, and Denis Bohm and I have volunteered to assist her, providing copy, photos, and drawings. By the time you read this, IOS will probably be on line, and much of that will be thanks to Mary.

Please know that we will not be printing any articles from *Meadowlark* — those belong to you, our paying members. What we hope the Web Site will do is gain more members for IOS and give our members a timely way to find out more about annual meetings, field trips, and other important Illinois birding information.

You'll find the IOS link on the Chicago Academy of Sciences home page at: <http://www.chias.org/>

See you on line.

*Sheryl De Vore*