

## **Managing Editor – *Iowa Bird Life***

*Iowa Bird Life* is the quarterly journal of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. Its purpose is to document the bird life of Iowa over time and to archive important information on the organization. Although the editor has final say in the content that is published and how things are formatted, volunteer staff are generally recruited for specific tasks. Currently the IBL staff consists of four field reports editors, one for each ornithological season, a Christmas Bird Count editor, and a photo editor who prepares the photos and captions used in printing. Other editors that might be considered are a technical editor (to help in meeting formatting standards), a science editor, a birding guide editor, a birder biography editor, or anything else that may be of interest to the membership. Finding reliable staff to help generate content on a consistent basis is imperative to bringing the journal to life and relationships within the Iowa birding community are a necessity. Additionally, the editor is responsible for contracting with a layout person using Adobe InDesign and a printer with mailing capabilities.

**Content** – each issue has some standing articles such as field reports, 50 Years Ago in *Iowa Bird Life*, the annual Records Committee report, an annual report of the Hitchcock Hawk Watch and raptor banding, meeting minutes, and financial reports. The editor works closely with the Records Committee Secretary to solicit notes of interest on rare bird sightings. Connections with the academic community, as well as the IOU Projects Committee, are also important to encourage short articles on avian research projects conducted in the state.

### **Requirements**

- Familiarity with the birds of Iowa and their status and distribution
- Ability to effectively recruit and manage a diverse staff to produce four quarterly journals per year in a timely manner
- Make decisions of content to be published, including cover and inside photos
- Ability to edit articles using the standards set by the Chicago Manual of Style
- Some knowledge of, or willingness to learn, proper syntax and formatting of scientific information
- Work closely with layout person and review drafts for corrections
- Create print orders
- Track all expenditures through a web-based application to stay on budget

A small stipend of \$500 per issue is available to the managing editor and may be used if desired for the managing editor to contract with others for specialized services such as technical editing.

Individuals should send a letter indicating interest, including applicable experience and any areas where some help may be needed, to [iowabirds@iowabirds.org](mailto:iowabirds@iowabirds.org). The IOU Publications Committee will be in touch with all interested candidates and may conduct a brief Zoom interview.