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ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Would you like to see a Nature Center in Alabama? A fresh green island in the ever increasing sea of concrete. A place where children and adults could go to observe and learn about the wonders of nature. Where children could learn first-hand how a bird builds its nest or feeds its young; how a chipmunk or squirrel stores up nuts, or how plants grow and reproduce. Sound great? Well, the Birmingham Audubon Society is working toward this goal.

Oak Mountain State Park is the area they have chosen as the best possible location for such a Center. It is centrally located in the state, and has 9,000 acres of woodland which would be very suitable. They plan to establish educational facilities for the study of natural history and conservation by all levels of society...from elementary school through college; also for adults and teachers.

Senator Aubrey Carr has announced that Oak Mountain is one of three pilot projects which will be opened first with the \$43,000,000 bond issue voted for park development and acquisition. Contracts will be let very soon for park development, so there is no time to lose.

I would like to see A.O.S. join with other conservation organizations in the state to support this effort in any way it can.

Talk to your friends! Write to your schools and colleges or universities. Let your legislators know how vital it is to give the children of Alabama this wonderful opportunity. Call Dr. Dan Holliman or any B.A.S. officer and let them know what you would like to do. Anything worth having is worth working for. So let us all work together to make this undertaking a reality. This would be a very real asset to everyone interested in birds, plants, nature in general, or conservation.

Helen Kittinger