

## A Beautiful Invocation

Omnipotent, Eternal Father, at all seasons of the year, we enjoy unusual advantages for bird observation on Dauphin Island. A mecca for tourists of the flyways, myriads of gorgeous birds gather here each Fall in preparation for the hazardous flight to more southern climes and return through this gateway the following Spring in a bustling spectacular pageant of unparalleled natural display of song, color and flight pattern. Lured from the air by this favorable spot, they descend to rest and feed and thereby to replenish their exhausted energy under the protective solicitude of devoted friends. Eternal Father, your Divine munificence awes and overwhelms us, yet leaves us humble and grateful.

The domain of birds is the vast outdoors. To see birds is to witness Nature in all her varied aspects and moods, for they are inseparable. Even Solomon in all his glory rivalled not in splendor and simplicity the birds of the air and the lilies of the field.

Thus it is most fitting, Eternal Father, that we dedicate a sanctuary on this Island in the sacred Temple of undisturbed Nature, where God may be constantly glorified in a multiplicity of His creations.

We beseech Thee, Heavenly Father, bless in a special way Dr. Wilson Gaillard, who conceived the idea of this wildlife refuge, this inviolable asylum, for Your beautiful feathered creatures and who worked laboriously for its realization; bless the Dauphin Island Officials who granted approval for this haven and collaborated most generously in every detail; bless all those who contributed, in various ways, to the permanent establishment of this invaluable asset in our midst.

Inspire our community and all future visitors to respect the sacredness of this Bird Sanctuary, to extend a welcome to the travellers of the air, who are our friends, our allies, our entertainers. May this Pageantry be a perennial source gratification and an object of protection. May this Sanctuary guarantee immunity from hard, and ever remain a hallowed place of frequent pilgrimage for all our citizens.

(Offered by our beloved member, Father J. L. Dorn, S.J. at the Dedication Ceremony of the Audubon Bird Sanctuary on Dauphin Island, March 17, 1962.)

## Dates to Remember:

A.O.S. Fall Meeting - October 20-21

Place - Dauphin Island

Reservations: Write Mrs. Carolyn Hager

Holiday House, Dauphin Island, Ala.

Don't forget to bring a plant for the Bird Sanctuary.

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## Christmas Bird Counts:

Dauphin Island - Saturday, December 29, 1962

The Mobile Chapter of A.O.S. would like to make this the most thorough and largest count ever made in South Alabama. We earnestly request your help. Every one is invited, especially members from adjacent states.

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## 100% Growth in One Day?

A.O.S. can double its membership in just one day! How? After reading this paragraph, will you Immediately phone a friend and either sell or give one new membership? We just tried it and it works. Phone NOW for your new member. Our November issue of Birdlife will publish the names of those who do their part.

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We all see unusual birds or bird behavior worth passing on. Send it to Birdlife Editor.

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## IMPORTANT BIRTHDAY

Last May A.O.S. became ten years old! Since we could not be together on that date, let's all join in a belated celebration at Dauphin Island on October 20-21.

The Mobile Chapter would like to furnish a big cake with 10 candles and have each of our past presidents light a candle, shedding some light on his or her term in office. The cheering glow of 10 candles will bring back pleasant memories and help light the way for another decade of service in bird conservation.