

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As you know, we are well into the 1965-66 AOS year. Many of you are having an excellent year. One of the reasons you are having a good year is that you are doing something constructive. To those of you who are having a good year and doing something constructive, I should like to encourage you to keep up the good work.

But some of us are not having as good a year as we would like. To those of us who fall into this category, I would like to present a challenge. That challenge is: Do something constructive during the 1965-66 AOS year.

What are some of the constructive things that we can do to help us have a better year? Here are a few suggestions: 1. Take a more active interest in the affairs of AOS, especially attend its meetings. 2. Be a regular contributor to ALABAMA BIRDLIFE and the NEWSLETTER. Let's not make the editors have to pry the information from us. 3. Donate a book to the AOS Library. As you know, the Library is housed at Auburn University. Dr. Julian Dusi at Auburn will be glad to receive books and place them in the Library. 4. Keep a record of our observations and either publish them or make them available to somebody who will publish them. 5. Make a series of color slides of birds, bird nests, etc. and show them to garden clubs, civic clubs, school or other groups. Programs of this kind are always welcomed. 6. Actively cooperate with the committee. Actually, each of us should be a one-man (woman) membership committee. Our Treasurer, Frank Huttlinger, Box 1945, University, Alabama, will be glad to supply forms for enrolling new members, and for accepting dues from delinquent members. 7. Get better acquainted with birders in your area. We may find enough interest to organize a local bird club. 8. Build and erect nest boxes. A house for purple martins makes an ideal project for a dad who is trying to interest his youngsters in birds. See pages 8 - 10 of Tom Imhof's ALABAMA BIRDS for instructions on building and erecting nest boxes. 9. Take a youngster on field trips. Show him how to use a field guide and binocular. We may be surprised by how proficient he gets within a short time in identifying birds. 10. Actively cooperate with the North American Nest Record Program. Dr. Dusi at Auburn can supply the forms for recording the desired data.

These are just a few of the things that we can do to help us have a better year. There are many, many more. I challenge you to accept one of these suggestions and have a better AOS year for having done so.

Robert E. Waters.