

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS — — — —

Dr. Minnie B. Scotland, of the *Schenectady Bird Club*, has been appointed the new Program Chairman for the Federation. It is not too early to prepare papers for the next annual meeting in May. Correspondence or any questions should be mailed directly to Dr. Scotland, 42 Continental Avenue, Cohoes, New York.

The *Schenectady Bird Club* has announced that Samuel R. Madison, of Delmar, has been appointed General Chairman of the Local Committee, for our next annual meeting at Schenectady.

The Schenectady club is to be congratulated for getting plans rolling early, for this meeting. Plans indicate that this fifth anniversary convention of the Federation will be outstanding.

Miss Audrey Louise Wrede, of the *Brooklyn Bird Club*, has been appointed Chairman of the Membership Committee. Miss Wrede succeeds Mrs. James Davis, of the *Genesee Ornithological Society*. The Federation owes a great debt of gratitude to Mrs. Davis, for the very fine and outstanding work she did in increasing the membership of the Federation. This organization expanded greatly under her able direction. Miss Wrede solicits the co-operation of everyone for there is still urgent need for *many, many* more individual members! Miss Wrede's address is 3109 Beverly Rd., Brooklyn 26, New York.

We are pleased and proud to announce the return of Fred Hall, to New York State. You will recall that he was our first Recording Secretary. Fred has been appointed the director of the Buffalo Museum of Science. We expect to see him around again at our annual meetings.

Those of you who were fortunate enough to attend the 1950 annual meeting at Watkins Glen readily recall the interesting field trip to the Montezuma Federal Wildlife Refuge. You will remember the area in which we observed the Blue Goose. The State of New York plans to construct the Thruway through the heart of that wonderful spot. The Federation through its members has attempted to alter these plans, but unfortunately the project has progressed almost beyond the point of reconsideration. Those who have written and talked on behalf of a realignment are to be congratulated for their efforts. Our case was carried not only by local press and radio, but featured editorially in several national publications. Letters should still be sent to Secretary of the Interior, Oscar Chapman, Washington, D. C., and Bertram D. Tallamy, New York State Thruway Commission, State Office Building, Albany, informing them that you disapprove of the project invading a heretofore inviolate refuge.

Congratulations to birders in Syracuse. They have organized the *Onondaga Audubon Society* with over sixty members. We urge them to join us and look forward to their participation in our activities.

This is my last opportunity to write to you through this column. It has been wonderful; a privilege and a joy. I have enjoyed it immensely. On January first, your President-elect assumes full responsibility for the guidance and welfare of the Federation. Extend to him your complete co-operation. He is capable and fully qualified to take the helm. I thank each and every member, and all the clubs for their splendid co-operation and support.

Winston William Brockner