

PREIDENT'S PAGE

In the April issue of "New York Birders" I reported a number of activities and projects recommended by the Federation's Board of Directors as desirable to enhance the enjoyment and value of the Federation to its club and individual members, and to birding generally in New York state. These suggestions have elicited favorable comment and, in fact, a volunteer at once came forward to undertake one of them — i.e. a state-wide May count. Reports on that have begun to come in and it is my hope that the next issue of New York Birders will contain a report of our first state-wide spring census.

I mention this because it illustrates what must happen if the things that are needed to keep the Federation viable, valuable and vital are to be accomplished. The Federation needs many more people who will move out of a provincial orbit and come forward to take a personal, active interest and participation in Federation affairs. Don't wait to be asked — we don't know all of you and your talents. Come forward.

Just as a reminder, here are some of the projects for which we need workers:

1. Federation-sponsored field trips at times other than annual meeting — including pelagic trips.
2. Development of a list of birders in each region who are willing to be asked for information on local birding — or willing to take visiting birders into the field.
3. Preparation of a list of speakers available for club programs — a very helpful project.
4. Prepare a publication on "Where To Bird in New York State" — more detailed and inclusive than currently available publications. This could complement Bull's forthcoming new State bird book.
5. Develop a State check-list.
6. Write a brochure — "So You Want to Start a Bird Club" — a how-to-do-it booklet.

There are no doubt other projects we haven't thought of but you have.

I hope to hear from many of you asking what you can do for the Federation so it can "do" for its members. Your officers can't do it alone.

Gordon M. Meade, M.D.