



The Wildlife Society Pennsylvania Chapter

Gordon Kirkland Award

The Kirkland Award is given biennially by the Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society (PATWS) to a professional in the wildlife or ecology disciplines in mid-career and beyond to recognize outstanding achievement towards issues related to Pennsylvania wildlife.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Gordon Kirkland Jr., professor of biology and the director of the vertebrate museum at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. The award is given in the form of wildlife-inspired artwork, the subject and medium is the recipient's choice. Past commissioned works have included sculpture, photography, and painting (cost not to exceed \$500.00). Cash will not be awarded in-lieu of artwork.

While career accomplishments are obviously the key, no definitive criteria have been established for selecting a recipient if multiple nominations are received. PATWS members nominating a particular individual should provide the Board a brief but descriptive letter documenting the nominee's accomplishments and dedication to wildlife ecology and conservation, with specific reference to Pennsylvania wildlife issues.

Nominees will be evaluated based on the strength of support letters received and information provided there in. The suggested criteria are:

- *Academic and/or professional achievement.* This can include - but is not limited to - academic or professional research; academic or professional involvement in habitat and/or species management programs, committees or other conservation entities; involvement in wildlife student success (graduate students advised, encouragement of student participation in meetings, etc.)
- *Sharing of information and promotion of wildlife/habitat conservation* through publications in scientific journals, popular magazines, and organizational newsletters; presentations at professional meetings, speaking to various civic groups and schools; development of educational programs, brochures, participation in local conservation activities, and learning kits.
- *Development and/or promotion of cooperative relationships* with other state and/or federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, sportsmen's groups, universities and colleges, private citizens groups.
- *Involvement in Wildlife Society activities, particularly at the Pennsylvania Chapter level.* Involvement can include current or past service on the PATWS Board; assisting in coordination of Chapter annual meeting, workshops, plenary sessions; service on various committees established by the PATWS Board or Chapter President.

The preceding criteria are presented as possible factors for consideration of nominees. However, not all criteria need to be met if a particular nominee has an outstanding history in one or two of the areas and garners outstanding letters of support. If a suitable nomination is not received, the award will not be given that year.

All application materials must be emailed **by January 15th to: PAChapterTWS@gmail.com**

Please include “Kirkland Lifetime Achievement Award” in the subject line of the email.

All nominations must include a phone number (with area code) for the winner to be notified. Finalists may be interviewed by telephone.

The recipient will be invited to attend the banquet at the annual conference for the formal grant award.