



Gordon Kirkland Lifetime Achievement Award

The Gordon “Gordy” Kirkland Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded biennially by the Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society (PATWS) to a mid-career or later professional in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments and dedication to wildlife ecology and conservation in Pennsylvania.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Gordon Kirkland Jr., Professor of Biology and former director of the Vertebrate Museum at Shippensburg University. The award is given in the form of wildlife-inspired artwork, the subject and medium are of the recipient's choice. Previously 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 the focus, 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 with a brief, but descriptive letter documenting the nominee's accomplishments and dedication to wildlife ecology and conservation, with specific reference to Pennsylvania-related wildlife issues.

Nominees will be evaluated based on the strength of support letters received and the information provided therein. Suggested criteria include:

- *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 TWS 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 these areas and garners outstanding letters of support. If a suitable nomination is not received, the award will not be given that year.

Application submission:

Nominations and support letters must be emailed to PAChapterTWS@gmail.com. Please include “Kirkland Lifetime Achievement Award” in the subject line of the email.

Deadline:

Support letters must be submitted electronically via email **by midnight of the deadline date.**

All submissions must include a telephone number (with area code). Finalists may be interviewed by telephone.

Notification:

The recipient will be notified and invited to attend the annual PATWS meeting for the formal award presentation.