

AWARDS

Lillian C. Stoner Award: This award was established in 1974 by an initial \$1,000 gift from Lillian Stoner, a founding member, former officer, Patron, and one of our most stalwart supporters until her death in 1978. This gift, later augmented by others, was to permit the Federation to provide financial help for one or more high school seniors or college students to attend the Federation's Annual Meeting and encourage their continued interest in nature and birds. A Stoner Award Committee, chaired since 1987 by John Confer, selects the annual recipient(s) from nominations submitted by Member Clubs.

Starting with an award in 1975 to Mary McKittrick, who had been nominated by the Linnaean Society of New York, 34 students have received this award. Confer and Gordon Meade published a report in *The Kingbird*, Vol 42, No3 naming all the recipients through 1990. They also reported on the developing careers of a number of them, including at least three who at that time either had, or were working toward doctorates in ornithology, one who was the 1996 winner of the national duck stamp award, and several others who are pursuing careers that reflected their continued interest in nature.

John J. Elliott Award: This award was established in 1964 in memory of Elliott, a former president who, until his death in 1963, had also been *The Kingbird's* Region 10 Editor for 15 years, preparing 60 successive seasonal reports. The award given in his name is for the best article contributed to *The Kingbird* each year. The selection is made by a committee, usually chaired by the current editor. A list of the 27 award-winning articles and their authors is printed in *The Kingbird*, Vol 47, No 4.

Gordon M. Meade Distinguished Service Award: This award is given to individuals for outstanding service to the Federation. Referred to simply as the certificate award until 1989 and then as the Distinguished Service Award, it was renamed in honor of Meade following his death in 1992. With apologies to any early recipients not recorded, it has been given only to the following individuals:

1976	Harold D. Mitchell	1990	Myrna Hemmerick
1976	Lillian C. Stoner	1990	Mary Ann Sunderlin
1977	Maxwell C. Wheat Jr.	1991	Richard Sloss
1979	Gordon M. Meade	1992	Robert Miller
1985	John Farrand Jr.	1993	Harriet Marsi
1985	Emanuel Levine	1994	John M. C. Peterson
1988	Constance Wilkins	1996	Paul A. DeBenedictis

Member Club Grants: In 1990 the Federation set aside funds whose earnings could be used "to help support our Member Clubs with unique or

innovative projects that advance birding in the state.” While applications have been few, grants were made in 1991 and 1997 to High Peaks Audubon Society, in 1991 and 1993 to Genesee Ornithological Society, in 1992 and 1995 to Sullivan County Audubon Society, in 1996 to Cattaraugus County Bird Club, and in 1997 to Chemung Valley Audubon Society.

Elon Howard Eaton Memorial Award: While not a Federation award as such, since 1993 the Federation has provided publicity and other support to one of its Charter Member Clubs, Eaton Birding Society, for its annual award given to “recognize significant contributions to ecology of birds in New York State.” The award has been presented at the same time as the Federation’s awards during the banquet at the Annual Meeting. Recipients have been Timothy H. Baird in 1994, Dr. John L. Confer and Karen Allaben-Confer in 1995, Kevin L. Berner in 1996, and Paul A. DeBenedictis in 1997.

Other Awards: From time to time other people have been recognized with special awards. At the 1986 Annual Meeting banquet all living past presidents were presented with an engraved kingbird statuette. This practice has continued for subsequent presidents at the completion of their terms. At the 1987 Annual Meeting four Regional Editors who had prepared more than 50 reports for *The Kingbird* were given special recognition along with gift copies of the about-to-be-published *Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*.