

**National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association**  
**SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**1984 – 2020**

The NWRA Significant Achievement Award is given to an individual who has made a major contribution to the field of wildlife rehabilitation within the past two years.

*\*Award has not been given since 2014*

**2014**

**Julia Whittington, DVM, (IL)** – for envisioning the creation of an online course to provide students in grades K-12 with a fundamental understanding of wildlife ecology, conservation, and medicine. Along with a team of students, elementary educators, and graphic designers, she developed a program entitled Wildlife Encounters, which is a unique interactive computer based program that actively engages students in four themed lessons: Habitats and Ecosystems; Wildlife Babies and Populations; Humans Relating to Wildlife; and Veterinary Care of Wildlife. This program is available free of charge to educators everywhere and has already reached thousands of students throughout the country.

**2013**

**Karen Wright, (MD)** – for bridging the gap between the pet industry and wildlife rehabilitators. In addition to attending numerous state and national wildlife rehabilitation meetings each year, she makes herself available to rehabilitators that have questions about wildlife nutrition. During a recent food product recall, Karen reached out to the rehabilitation community to ensure that any potentially tainted product was not being fed to wildlife and she worked countless hours to answer questions and concerns. This unselfish act may have helped deter many severe issues with wildlife under our care as rehabilitators.

**2011**

**Resee Collins and Carmen Simonton, US Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Office (GA)** – for defining the role of local wildlife rehabilitators and implementing and overseeing a system to identify, qualify, activate, document, support, and pay wildlife rehabilitators during the Deepwater Horizon oiled wildlife response. They were critical in facilitating the effective use of local wildlife rehabilitators in the multi-state response and in setting a precedent for future oil spill responses.

## 2010

**Kathy Konishi, Colorado Division of Wildlife (retired) (CO)** – for providing strong visible support for wildlife rehabilitation and creating internet accessible tools that have been successful in recruiting new wildlife rehabilitators and improving relationships among apprentice and experienced rehabilitators. While employed as Special Licenses Manager, she played an important role in revising Colorado's wildlife rehabilitation regulations and helped raise the state's wildlife rehabilitation standards and the quality of care by helping to clarify the state agency's expectations for wildlife rehabilitation and training.

## 2006

**Pamela Reger (IL)** – for her dedicated and skilled work with NWRA symposia over the past ten years, especially for assembling excellent educational programs for the benefit of many wildlife rehabilitators, educators, veterinarians, and countless animals.

## 2005

**Kip Parker, PAWS Wildlife Center (WA)** – for his work as a wildlife rehabilitator, his collaborative leadership and persistence in the creation of the Washington Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, and his commitment to working together to professionalize the field of wildlife rehabilitation.

## 2001

**Erica Miller, DVM, Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research (DE)** – for her work as editor of the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 3rd edition, compiling a mass of information from many different sources into a superb educational and reference manual.

## 2000

**Guy R. Hodge, Humane Society of the United States (VA)** – for his work as a wildlife rehabilitator and especially his work in promoting non-lethal solutions to nuisance wildlife through workshops (Wild Neighbors: Humane Solutions to Conflicts with Wildlife) for rehabilitators, animal control officers, and other animal professionals, and through the book he co-edited, Wild Neighbors: The Humane Approach to Living with Wildlife.

## 1999

**Blair Joselyn, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN)** – for his efforts above and beyond' to collaboratively design and implement Minnesota wildlife rehabilitation regulations, including state standards, an informative study guide, and

examinations with published questions and answers; a system that will likely serve as a model for other states.

#### **1998**

**Joshua Dein, VMD, United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Health Center (WI)** – for creating and maintaining the Wildlife Health Listserve on the internet for veterinarians and professionals working with wildlife to exchange information.

#### **1997**

**Bea Orendorff (KY)** – for her tremendous work expanding, editing, and producing the NWRA Quarterly for the past six years, adding a significant amount of peer-reviewed and published information to the knowledge base in our field.

#### **1996**

**Daniel R. Ludwig, PhD, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (IL)** – for his work as editor of several Wildlife Rehabilitation volumes, and his work on post-release studies of rehabilitated wildlife.

#### **1995**

**Stuart Porter, VMD, Wildlife Center of Virginia (VA)** – for his research and presentations on pesticide poisoning of raptors.

#### **1994**

**Donna Ludwig (IL)** – for her work as Symposium Program Chair for the past four years and assembling outstanding presentations for wildlife rehabilitators.

#### **1992**

**Jan White, DVM (CA)** – for chairing the committee responsible for developing an accreditation program and minimum standards for wildlife rehabilitation.

#### **1991**

**Debbie Marcum (TX)** – for her scientific research and extensive efforts in developing appropriate dietary formulas for nursing mammals.

**1990**

**Mark Pokras, DVM, and Charles Sedgwick, DVM, Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine (MA)** – for their efforts in planning, funding, and conducting special leadership programs for wildlife rehabilitators and veterinarians to disseminate state-of-the-art information on wildlife medicine and develop technical communication between veterinarians and rehabilitators.

**1988**

**Patrick Redig, DVM, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine (MN)** – for his significant contribution to raptor medicine through his work with new avian orthopedic techniques.

**1987**

**Carole H. Allen, H.E.A.R.T. (TX)** – for an ongoing private and public campaign to save the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle from extinction.

**1986**

**Barbara Walker, Raptor Research and Rehabilitation Program, University of Minnesota (MN)** – for promoting wildlife rehabilitation educational programs.

**1985**

**Carol Odell, Wildlife Rescue Team (NE)** – for her work with post-release studies of bobcats and coyotes.

**1984**

**Betsy Jones (NJ)** – for her work with the State of New Jersey for the benefit of wildlife rehabilitation.