

LEAVE A LEGACY

By Mary Linkevich

James A. Kushlan, Ph.D.

A writer, researcher, ornithologist, educator, and conservationist, Dr. Jim Kushlan's work has left a significant impact both on Hawk Mountain and the field of avian conservation. His accolades include positions as a research associate at the Smithsonian Institution, director of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, professor of biology at the University of Mississippi and Texas A&M, Commerce, and wildlife biologist with the U.S. National Park Service.

Jim connected with now-retired Director of Conservation Science Dr. Keith Bildstein through their mutual service as presidents of the Waterbird Society, and with former board member Frank Gill, who with Keith, introduced him to Sanctuary board service. During his tenure, Jim chaired the science committee with Steve Edge, guiding the program to its current leadership level, and helped to plan with Wendy McLean the design and construction of the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, which this year celebrates 20 years of serving raptor scientists, trainees, post-docs, and graduate students.

Jim recognized that trainee graduates would need follow up and support, and so he made a visionary gift to establish the Kushlan Endowment Fund, the interest from which provides the annual James A. Kushlan Award. Established in 2005, this competitive award supports the Sanctuary's growing graduate student program by funding research that will advance Hawk Mountain science goals and mission. It also qualified Jim as one of our earliest members of the Rosalie Edge Society.



"Hawk Mountain provides the unique opportunity for research both at the Acopian Center and through its global network of monitoring sites and conservation programs populated by several generations of students and interns who, after their foundational experience at the Sanctuary, return to their home countries to continue their work through programs and conservation approaches that Hawk Mountain helped create. Supporting the studies of such students provides a way to help nurture the next generation of young scientists and conservationists," he says.

If you, too, would like to make a gift to support endowment at a leadership level or would like to help bolster the Kushlan Endowment Fund, please contact us today. Your gift can advance raptor conservation for generations to come.



Rosalie Edge Society

Learn more about the Rosalie Edge Society:
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