Gerald (Jerry) Kral
2019 Marvin and Emelie Snyder Award Winner

Text Elmer Dustman

At the ConeFest2019 in Silverton, OR, this past June, Gerald (Jerry) Kral was awarded the Marvin and Emilie Snyder Award of Merit for Dedicated Support of the American Conifer Society. Jerry was nominated by his long time friend and fellow ACS meeting organizer, Elmer Dustman.

Following is the nomination Elmer submitted to the Awards Selection Committee:

Gerald Kral has been an active and enthusiastic ACS member for at least 15 years. He was elected as a member of the ACS Board of Directors and served for five consecutive terms! There are not many who have served on the Board longer. Jerry joins such legends of the ACS as: Eddie Rezek (10 years), Susan Martin (9 years), Bill Thomas (6 years), and Marvin Snyder (6 years). During his service on the BOD, Jerry proposed, championed, and developed the current ACS Scholarship Program. He still participates in the evaluation of candidates for this scholarship. Jerry and his able partner, Elmer Dustman, also organized two ACS National Meetings and three Regional Meetings for the Northeast Region. Unless you have organized a meeting, it is difficult to appreciate the commitment of time and personal sacrifice necessary to make everything come together smoothly. All of these meetings were well executed and well received by the attendees. Those who do it once, rarely volunteer to do a repeat performance. So, FIVE meetings is quite an accomplishment!

We congratulate Jerry and thank him for all that he has done for the ACS and to further our mission!

Elmer Dustman and Jerry Kral. Photo by Dennis Groh