

**The 2016
Louis Schmidt Laureate**



Charles A. Hedgcock, RBP, FBCA

The Louis Schmidt Award

This Award – the highest given in the BCA – is named for our second President. It is awarded annually for outstanding contributions to the progress of biological communications. The selection of the recipient each year is made by a committee composed of the nine most recent winners. This selection is subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.

Mr. Schmidt was in charge of photography at the Rockefeller Institute in New York City and was a founding member of the BPA (Biological Photographic Association, later to be renamed the BioCommunications Association) in 1931. He had an abiding interest in sharing his photographic knowledge with his students and in promoting the highest technical standards in our association.

In 1943, on the occasion of his death, the BPA Journal commented, In many ways, the BPA is a monument to Louis Schmidt.

To give special distinction to the Award, those who receive it are known as Louis Schmidt Laureates.

The Louis Schmidt Award had its beginnings in photography in biology and medicine. With progress of communication technologies it has grown to recognize the expanded and expanding fields of communication.

This Award is an honor bestowed for outstanding contributions made during an extended career and over a period of time that still may be ongoing. The Louis Schmidt Award is presented for evidence of the four core criteria listed below:

- Recognition of outstanding contributions to the progress of communications within the life sciences
- Promotion of understanding and cooperation within the field of biocommunication
- Maintenance of ethical approach to professional relationships
- Willingness to freely share technical information

Symbols of the Louis Schmidt Award include an engraved BCA key with a diamond inset personalized with the Laureate's name. A framed certificate is also presented to the newly elected Laureate and one year custodianship of the BCA gold-headed cane, a traditional symbol in medicine of high achievement and honor.

Charles A. Hedgcock, RBP, FBCA

2016 Louis Schmidt Laureate

The Louis Schmidt Committee of the BioCommunications Association is pleased to announce that Charles A. Hedgcock, or Chip as he is known to many, is the 2016 Louis Schmidt Laureate.

Charles “Chip” A. Hedgcock is a Registered Biological Photographer and Fellow of the BioCommunications Association. His work is of the highest quality as shown by his participation in over one hundred solo and group exhibitions in galleries across North America and on an international level at places such as the Royal Photographic Society in Bath, England. He is widely published in the popular press linking science and the general public. He has created a special visual bridge that allows his work to speak to both science and art. Recently his work demonstrating the chemical defense of the Bombardier beetle was used by the New York Times. The departments he supported for his years at the University of Arizona had many cover illustrations using his work in top scientific journals. His revealing images of what he refers to as the charismatic microfauna led one critic to say “Chip is to bugs what Weston was to peppers.”

He has advanced scientific knowledge through his work at the University of Arizona and the Sky Island Alliance. His participation in expeditions to parts of the United States Southwest and the Madrean Archipelago in Sonora, Mexico has directly led to the discovery and documentation of species of flora and fauna that had previously been unknown. He is a masterful problem solver as noted in his ability to document animal behavior.

Chip willingly shares his knowledge on various levels. He publishes in a wide range of media from scientific peer review to the popular press, works as diverse as our own *Journal of Biocommunication* to the *New York Times*. He edited the information on scorpions in the recent edition of “*A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert*” 2015, *University of California Press*. He lectures and conducts workshops on his techniques from a university academic level to his recent workshops at the North American Nature Photography Summit in San Diego, California. He is a frequent author and presenter of papers at the BIOCMM meetings and often a leader at workshops.

Chip is a person of principle and integrity. His years of service to the BioCommunications Association on committees and the Board demonstrate his selfless service to the field. He also serves on boards and is active in photography and conservation organizations. All of his colleagues speak of his dedication and his generosity of spirit. A quote from a sponsor well sums up his reputation with “Chip is conscientious, highly professional, admirably ethical and deeply dedicated to using his art in service to science, natural history, and conservation.”

Schmidt Laureates

- 1948 – Leo C. Massopust, FBPA
1949 – Anne Shiras, FBPA
1950 – Stella Zimmer, FBPA
1951 – Ralph P. Creer, FBPA
1952 – Leonard A. Julin, RBP, FBPA
1953 – Oscar W. Richards, PhD, FBPA
1954 – Ferdinand R. Harding, RBP, FBPA
1955 – C. Graham Eddy, FBPA
1956 – Mervin W. LaRue, Sr., FBPA
1957 – Lloyd E. Varden, RBP, FBPA
1958 – Albert Levin, RBP, FBPA
1959 – Paul H. Holinger, MD, FBPA
1960 – H. Lou Gibson, RBP, FBPA
1961 – Warren Sturgis, RBP, FBPA
1962 – Stanley J. McComb, RBP, FBPA
1963 – Maria E. Ikenberg, RBP, FBPA
1964 – Peter Hansell, MD, RBP, FBPA
1965 – Howard E. Tribe, RBP, FBPA
1966 – John V. Butterfield, FBPA
1967 – not awarded
1968 – Chester F. Reather, RBP, FBPA
1969 – Laurence B. Brown, RBP, FBPA
1970 – Verlin Y. Yamamoto, RBP, FBPA
1971 – Stephen P. Dittman, RBP, FBPA
1972 – Clifford L. Freeche, RBP, FBPA
1973 – Stanley Klosevych, RBP, FBPA
1974 – Roger P. Loveland, FBPA
1975 – E. Lynn Baldwin, RBP, FBPA
1976 – Charles P. Hodge, RBP, FBPA
1977 – Lardner A. Coffey, RBP, FBPA
1978 – John P. Vetter, RBP, FBPA
1979 – Donald H. Fritts, RBP, FBPA
1980 – Fritz Goro, RBP, FBPA
1981 – I. Lloyd Matlovsky, RBP, FBPA
1982 – Leslie Bowcock, MD, AIMBI
1983 – H. Paul Newman, RBP, FBPA
1984 – Percy Brooks, RBP, FBPA
1985 – Leon J. LeBeau, FBPA
1986 – Nile Root, RBP, FBPA
1987 – Martin L. Scott, FBPA
1988 – Ralph J. Marshall, PhD
1989 – Thomas P. Hurtgen, FBPA
1990 – Raymond E. Lund, RBP, FBPA
1991 – Robert F. Sisson, RBP, FBPA
1992 – Nicholas M. Graver, RBP, FBPA
1993 – A. Robin Williams, FBPA
1994 – Will E. Renner, RBP, FBPA
1995 – Dan Patton, RBP, FBPA
1996 – Kenneth V. Michaels, FBPA
1997 – Ronald F. Irvine, RBP, FBPA
1998 – Heather Angel, FRPS, FBIPP
1999 – Richard M. Williams, FBPA
2000 – Herbert R. Smith, Jr., FBPA
2001 – William J. Stenstrom, FBPA
2002 – W. David Tredinnick, FBPA
2003 – Joseph Ogrodnick, FBPA
2004 – Robert C. Turner, RBP, FBPA
2005 – Samuel Giannavola, RBP, FBPA
2006 – Gigi Williams, FBPA
2007 – Michael R. Peres, RBP, FBPA
2008 – Norman J. Barker, RBP, FBPA
2009 – Steven J. Harrison, FBPA
2010 – Andrew Davidhazy
2011 – Gale E. Spring, FBPA
2012 – James E. Hayden, RBP, FBPA
2013 – John B. Hendrix, RBP, FBPA
2014 – Paul Crompton, FBPA
2015 – James M. Fosse, RBP, FBPA
2016 – Charles A. Hedgcock, RBP, FBPA
-
-