

BIOCOMM 2005

The 75th Annual Meeting of the BCA will be held July 21-24, 2005, in downtown Portland, Oregon at The Benson Hotel!

Save the date and make plans now to attend this event in a fun city!

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BCA news

Newsletter of the BioCommunications Association — www.bca.org



Autumn 2004

BIOCOMM 2004

The 74th annual meeting of the BioCommunications Association was held July 10 - 13 in Boston, MA at the Hyatt Harborside Hotel. The accommodations featured a spectacular view across the harbor of the Boston Skyline. The meeting followed the traditional format of opening with a reception, followed with the presentation of the awards for the BioImages exhibit. Go to the BCA Website to have a look at the winning entries.

After a long day of travel and committee meetings, followed by the opening ceremonies, everyone looked forward to a good night's sleep. At about 2:30 am we all learned what the fire alarm sounded like in a hotel and most of us had to evacuate the building. (Did you feel the door first?)

It was the first ever wee-hour-of-the-morning BCA pajama party. Someone (not a BCA member or guest) pulled the fire alarm, a prank on a newlywed couple that had their reception at the Hyatt. The hotel and Boston Fire Department were not amused! The next morning much of the conversation centered about, "What did you do last night?"

The Scientific program led off with Keynote Bonnie Meltzer who talked about ethical issues of digital imaging. The Keynote Address was followed by many interesting presentations including one that dealt with storing and archiving images. The opinion of the speaker, Frank Romano, was that the only truly permanent media was paper. "I don't think anyone will ever make a reference to the Dead Sea CD ROMs," he said. We have gone from 8" disks, to 5" disks, to 3" disks, to SyQuest and Jazz disks and ZIP disks, to DVD's, to who knows what is next? We can still view the photographs of Henry Fox Talbot, but what about looking at those images on that ZIP disk sometime in the future?

The Pioneer Lecture was presented by Carlton Ward Jr., an Eco-photo journalist who, among other things has worked for *Smithsonian Magazine*. His presentation was on capturing the diversity of the Gambia region in Africa, and featured some truly spectacular images.

The Board of Governors met three times during the week to do "the work" of the Association. One outcome of that meeting was that the Board of Registry is to be replaced by a certification committee. The structure and activities of that committee are to be developed in the very near future.

Thirteen students from RIT's Biomedical Photographic Communications Program attended the meeting. They helped with workshops, registration, and AV. According to Mike Peres, they really enjoyed meeting people and showing and talking about their portfolios. One of the students is working with Richard Frederickson to design the logo for next year's meeting.



Early morning wake up call!

The meeting concluded with the awards banquet. The Louis Schmidt Award was presented to Bob Turner. Marilee Caliendo received the Ralph Creer Service Award, and the President's Award was given to Anita Tellier. Jim Fosse was named a Fellow of the Association.

A variety of workshops were offered after the meeting, and some members attended Macworld which was being held at the Boston Convention Center.

The local committee is to be congratulated on all their hard work in making this meeting a success!

Thomas S. Merrill with contributions by Jim Fosse

Robert C. Turner, RBP, FBPA, Honored as 2004 Louis Schmidt Laureate

Bob Turner was named the 2004 Louis Schmidt Laureate at this year's meeting. Bob is the Director of the BioMedical Graphics Department at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) in La Jolla, California. He is a Registered Biological Photographer, holds a Master of Business Administration in Health Care Administration, and is a Fellow of the Biological Photographic Association (FBPA).

In 1966 Bob joined the U.S. Navy where he served as a Hospital Corpsman. He graduated from the Navy Medical Photography School located in Bethesda, Maryland in 1969, the same year he joined BPA.



Following his military service, Bob worked for two and a half years at the Forsythe Dental Center in Boston. In 1975 he accepted a position as a Medical Photographer with the Veterans' Administration Hospital, La Jolla, California. Within the next four and a half years, Bob served on BPA's Board of Registry, hosted numerous BPA Chapter Meetings, and completed his collegiate studies at Palomar College and National University. In 1979, after earning his MBA in Health Care Administration, he accepted an offer to be the Supervisor of the Photography Laboratory, at the former Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, where he was later named director.

Since joining BPA in 1969 Bob has been very active in the organization. He has also presented better than thirty-five oral



papers at local, national, and international meetings, conducted five workshops on digital photography, and in 1995 was the invited keynote speaker at the Society for Medical and Biological Illustration's (SMBI) annual conference in Faaborg, Denmark. Bob is also the recipient of the 1998 Clifford L. Freehe BCA Education Award, sponsored by the BCA Pacific Northwest Chapter.

Bob served for several years as Director of Conferences, was Scientific Program Chair, and Session Moderator at annual meetings on several occasions, was General Chair of BPA's 52nd annual meeting, and has served on the Board of Registry, Board of Governors and numerous Association committees. He served as BPC's President for 1999-2001 and is currently the Chair of the Management Board of the *Journal of Biocommunication*.

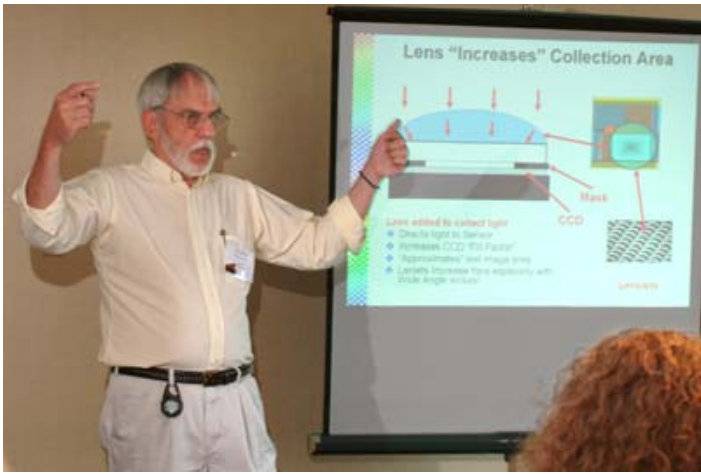
Bob exhibits his photography often in the BioImages exhibit, and has won many awards. His photographs have appeared on the covers of: *Nature*, *Cell Biology*, *Cardiovascular Medicine*, *Molecular Biology, Science*, and the *Journal of Biological Photography*.



Top right: Bob Turner poses with his wife Betsy Ann. Upper left; Schmidt Laureate's, standing; Dick Williams, Will Renner, Tom Hurtgen, seated; Bill Stenstrom, Bob Turner, and Joe Ogradnick. Bottom left; 2003 Schmidt Laureate Joe Ogradnick presents the gold headed cane to Bob. Bottom right; Bob's acceptance remarks with Louis B. Schmidt pictured in his presentation.

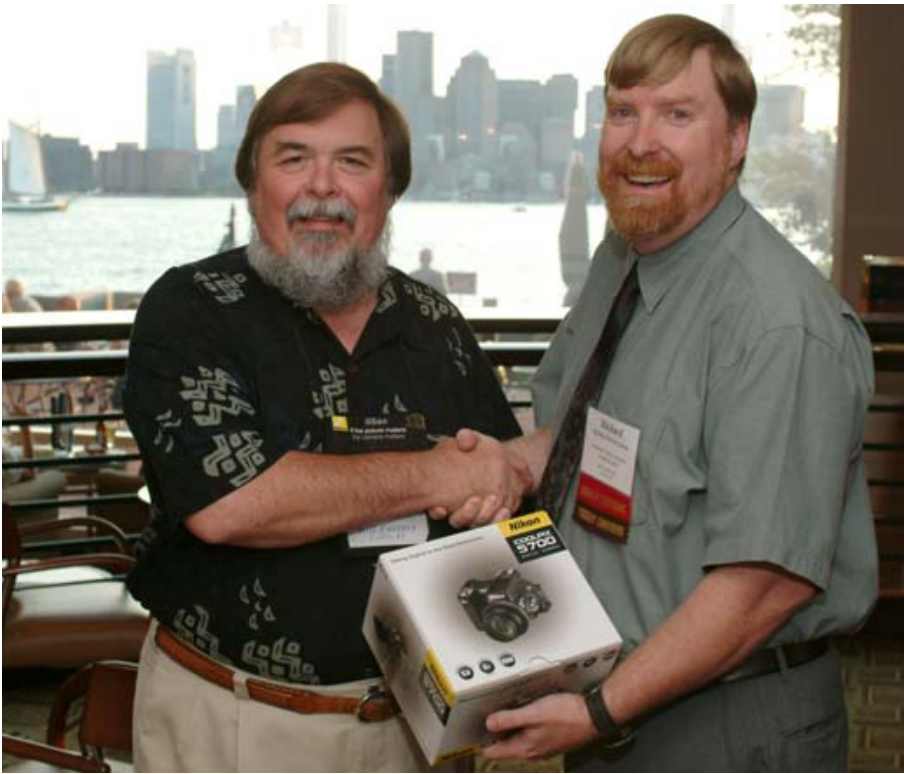


Clockwise from top left: BioComm attendees, Jim Koepfler untangles cords, Speakers – Marc Rubinstein; Jim Fosse; Michael Peres; Frank Romano; attendees - Kristen Toohey, Anita Tellier, and Marilee Caliendo.



Clockwise from top left: Gordon Brown; Tom Zigon; Susan Brogna; Lorayne Ham, Keynote Speaker - Bonnie Meltzer and Cheryl Montgomery; Adam Cooper and Josh Cooper; Andrew Davidhazy; Joe Nadakapadam and Alan Opsahl.





Best of Show – Nikon Award

Nikon representative Bill Fortney awards Richard Frederickson a Nikon Coolpix 5700 camera. Richard's photograph *Presence of LacZ Beta-galactosidase Activity* was selected Best of Show in the annual BioImages salon held at BIOCOMM 2004. Nikon has been a supporter of the BioImages Salon for many years. Richard is a graphics specialist at National Cancer Institute at Frederick, Frederick, Maryland. Congratulations Richard and thank you Nikon!

Below and clockwise: John Hendrix congratulates new BCA Fellow Jim Fosse; John presents Bioluminescence awards to Anita Tellier; Town Hall Meeting attendees; John Hendrix honors Marilee Calindo with the Ralph Creer award for service to the BCA.



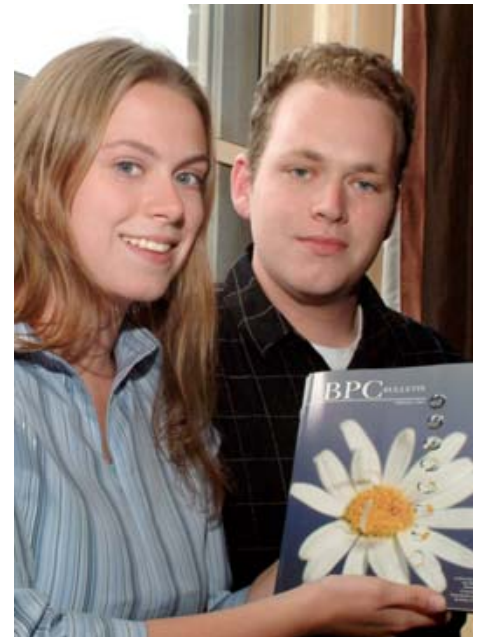


Photo Credits

All the photographs from BIOCOMM 2004 were taken by Tom Conlin, a member of the New England Chapter. Tom used a Fuji Finepix S2 pro digital SLR camera body with Nikon 35mm lenses. The camera was loaned to Tom and the BCA by Gary Rosenfeld from the Fuji Corporation. The fire truck photo is by Tom Merrill.

Clockwise from top left: Biolmages coordinating team Sue Loomis, Laurie Lizotte and Kristen Toohey; RIT BPC Bulletin editors Jennette Hanna, Andrew Warman; Karna McKinney Biolmages winner, John Hendrix; Pioneer lecturer Carlton Ward signing his Africa books; Pre dawn adventure to Boston Harbor Island.

Some Thoughts from the President

BCA turns seventy-five years old next year. It's a long time in personal history. It's a long time from when that small meeting at Yale left us a legacy which continues to unfold to be our future. Our membership was comprised of photographers working in medicine and science.



C. Graham Eddy coined the word "biophotography" and that's who we became, biophotographers. We had a collective sense of identity and meaning. We were the Biological Photographic Association. We founded a journal, held annual meetings, and formed a network of members that helped us overcome obstacles to achieving our professional goals.

Many of us started as AV technicians running projectors at rounds waiting for the haunting cue of "next slide." Maybe you started in the profession doing copywork and learning to love the diazo. In time, new skills and opportunities allowed you to make the transition to medical photography with more challenges and responsibilities. You were at the top of your game. BPA had its rites of passage as well. First you became a member, then you presented at meetings, published, got your RBP, and perhaps did some teaching and mentoring. We diverged from the generalist to the specialist, working in fields that became disciplines in their own right. It was no longer photography only but graphics, ophthalmology, endoscopy and videography. Over time, no one person could do it all. The resources were there along with the excitement of discovery.

Then things changed. There was always change in our profession. Our journal chronicles an interesting record of change. Film formats changed. Processes changed. We stopped using 4x5 for microscopy and x-rays. Cinematography became video. New chemistry meant that we no longer had to reverse transparency film part way through the process by exposing it to light. During this time the fundamentals of our craft were fairly stable and it was possible to easily transfer the core knowledge that we had acquired to new products and techniques. That is not the change that has shaken us up. The change that we have experienced in the past few years has caused us to relearn not the peripherals, but many of the fundamentals. I cannot think of a professional community that has taken a hit like the people working in biocommunications. We moved out of the darkrooms, off the drafting tables and onto the desktops. We had to learn a new technology with new fundamentals; it wasn't just those of us in biocommunications that had to learn and adapt to this new technology, it was everyone.

We can learn, that is at the core of any professional group. Something else happened though. We were tossed in with everyone who operates a computer and there was something terribly wrong with this. We can look at the changes that have occurred and see confusion, alienation, cynicism, and yes, even some resentment with the way the past few years have unfolded.

A friend of mine commented that no matter how many pixels a camera can capture, if you can't light it properly, the picture fails. Where had I heard this before? Charlie Hodge, RBP, FBPA, was the source of a great deal of useful information as well as wisdom about the field. He was making processes up as he went along because where Charlie was going with filming fluorescein angiography of the brain there was no manual. When the scientists at the Montreal Neurological Institute wanted to see blood flowing in a damaged brain, Charlie decided that if he could light it could be done. Never mind that the light was outside the visible spectrum and the film was "somewhere beyond 3200 ISO", he did it. Our heritage is filled with people like Charlie that fed us and our profession with a collective sense of meaning.

This anniversary of BCA is not about the number of years. It's about a celebration of people who share a collective history and identity. It celebrates a collective sense of purpose about who we are professionally and helps us as we seek to overcome obstacles and achieve something important with our careers. Charlie Hodge is a point in the heritage that is BCA. He had his mentors and he passed that knowledge and wisdom on to us. We will do the same for those that follow. Each of us is a point in the collective body that is BCA. In my years with BCA, I have never had anyone refuse to help me rise to a challenge. BCA has always been there for my professional growth. Let's not forget who we are.

There are 107 languages spoken in Toronto where I live. In areas of the city, street signs can be in Greek, Italian, and Chinese, to name just a few. Only 53% of the population use English as a first language, yet it is a place that 4 million people call home. For me, BCA is my professional home. It provides a historical perspective against which I can place my activity in the context of the larger world of biocommunications. BCA engages us in a knowledge base that is greater than any one individual. It provides wisdom, resources, and a way for people to overcome isolation and connect with the profession of biocommunications. Something larger than themselves. I encourage each of you to participate in BCA and



become engaged not only in the celebration of seventy five years of this outstanding association, but also in offering and blending your knowledge, wisdom, and experience into the larger story that is the Bio-Communications Association.

*John Hendrix,
RBP, FBPA
President, BCA*

Chapter Events

Southern California Chapter

The Southern California Chapter met on September 23, 2004 in Los Angeles. The meeting was organized by **Dwayne Hayden**, and their host was Bruce Mutz, from Samy's Camera.

Tom Merrill, FBPA, BCA BOG Member, reported on BIOCOMM 2004. Tom gave an overview of the meeting's activities, presentations, and events. Tom also showed a copy of the BIOCOMM 2004 Group Picture, and from BCA's website, he reviewed the winning entries from BioImages.



Dwayne Hayden welcomes members and guests to the meeting. Photograph by Tom Merrill.

Bob Turner, RBP, FBPA, Chair JBC Management Board, demonstrated the JBC web site. Bob navigated through the various links showing the featured papers, columns, and images. He also presented the Journal's capability which enable's figures, illustrations, and all motion-media productions to be viewed.

Skip Spano, Nikon rep., presented an update on the latest Nikon digital (D2X) and silver (F6) cameras, and digital accessories. Much discussion was generated as each new product was reviewed. Further details about the new equipment is available via the internet: <http://www.nikonusa.com/>

Bruce Mutz and Doris Stuart, Samy's Camera, provided an insight into Samy's position in assisting professionals in selecting digital equipment. Twenty people attended the informative Thursday evening meeting. Many thanks to the presenters and hosts.

Pacific Northwest Chapter

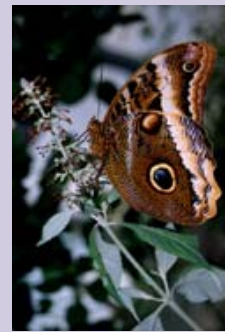
The Pacific Northwest Chapter met on October 23 at the Swedish Hospital in Seattle Washington. About 20 people attended the meeting. The host of the meeting was Dan Hallett from Swedish Hospital. The organizing team was Dan and Janet Schukar, from The University of Washington Department of Neurosurgery, Seattle. Secondary team members were Cheryl Montgomery, Steve Frick and Lorayne Ham.

Speakers included: **Michael Tuggy, MD**, Swedish Hospital, Seattle, Washington, "Out of Africa" a photographic narrative of missionary work and mountain climbing in Africa. Dr. Tuggy shared about his medical help missionary trip to Africa with his wife, who is also a medical doctor, and his 2 children; **Bob Turner, RBP, FBPA**, Scripps Research Institute, LaJolla, California, Chair of the JBC Management Board. "*Demonstration of the new on-line Journal of Biocommunication*". Bob was our special guest visiting from the Southern California BCA chapter; **Karna McKinney**, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Seattle, Washington. "Ten Days at Sea in the Aleutian Islands" - a photographic documentation aboard a NOAA Research Cruise; **Terry King**, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, Washington. "Working with Video in the Dual Platform (Mac & PC) Environment"; **Ralph Portillo**, Glazer's Camera, Seattle, Washington. "What's New and Cool in the Digital Realm," a demonstration of the latest and greatest in digital equipment.



Member News

Anita Tellier, FBCA, recently participated in Three Women ~ Three Views a photographic exhibit in the Gladview Health Care Center located in Old Saybrook, CT. Each woman hung 25 photographs in the show. Anita's prints included Blue Morpho Butterfly, Forest Coral, Canyon de Chelley and Eurasian Eagle Owl. Anita lives in Connecticut and is Past President and a member of the Board of Governors for the BCA.



Owl Butterfly by Anita Tellier

Kristen Toohey recently published a website featuring her photography. It can be viewed at www.k2photography.com. Kristen is a Graphics Specialist for Harvard University's New England Primate Center.

Congratulations to **Alan Opsahl** who was awarded Eighth Prize in the Nikon Small World Competition for his brightfield H&E image entitled *Rat epididymis (part of the male reproductive system) (100x)*. The image was color corrected in Photoshop based on original color information. Alan is a Senior Scientist at Pfizer Global Research and Development in Groton, Connecticut. You can view Alan's winning image online at <http://www.microscopyu.com/smallworld/gallery/contests/2004/8thlarge2004.html>