

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Andre Foucart

Inducted in 2007



Born in Tournai, Belgium, in 1937, André Foucart trained as a draftsman and industrial engineer. Although he had begun mineral collecting in a casual way prior to 1970, he did not do it in an organized fashion until mineralogist Gaston Tavernier set him on the path. Later, in 1975, a trip to Canada introduced him to micromounting. An Earth Sciences Fair in 1978 indicated the need for a local club, and by 1981 he had brought l'association des micro monteurs de Minéraux de Montigny-le-Tilleul (4M) into legal existence.

During the 1980s, André travelled in North America, meeting with and learning from many of the great micromounters whose names are now inscribed in the Hall of Fame. In the meantime, he had begun producing articles and notes on mineralogy, micromounting, and photomicrography. By 2005, he had produced 222 notes and articles, including a 185-page book on micromounting, published in 1994 under the auspices of the 4M. Since that time, he has produced a second book, on photomicrography, also published by the 4M.

André Foucart has spent more than 20 years guiding the 4M to its prestigious place as one of the premier micromounting associations in Europe. He has organized exhibitions and demonstrations of micromounting and mineralogy in other parts of Belgium, orienting them particularly toward attracting and teaching children about the science behind the displays. André was an active participant in the creation of the European Federation of Mineralogical and Paleontological Societies (FESMP) and the creation of a Belgian Council of Earth Sciences. He also contributed strongly to the implementation of an agreement for cooperation between the three principal associations of European micromounters, the 4M, the AFM (French) and the AMI (Italian). He is a worthy addition to the Micromounters Hall of Fame.