

# Micromounters Hall of Fame

## Henry “Bumpi” Barwood

1947 - 2016

Inducted in 2017



Dr. Henry Barwood, affectionately known as “Bumpi”, was a professional mineralogist and teacher, who turned his skills in both fields towards helping amateur mineralogists, particularly micromounters, in every possible way.

With an insatiable thirst for knowledge, he gained his doctorate at Virginia tech, then went on to expand his capabilities, working with phosphates in Florida, syenites in Arkansas, and clay minerals for ceramics in Pennsylvania. By the time he became a professor at Troy University in Alabama, he was widely experienced in laboratory and fieldwork, and he settled in to use both in support of micromounters.

Bumpi found the world of microminerals in the nineteen sixties, and never left. He would identify specimens for micromounters, bring huge buckets of material to give away at micromount symposia, and hand out mounted, identified specimens of rare minerals to anyone at a microscope. He organized and led field trips to mines and quarries, travelled widely to give talks from Canada to California, and with an inventive mind, began to develop his own laboratory instrumentation at home, using spare and inexpensive parts. He shared those developments widely, encouraging others to follow his lead. In particular, he delved deeply into the field of photomicrography, again experimenting with lenses, and producing better and better pictures that he shared with micromounters around the globe.

A gregarious, cheerful, and friendly man, he loved to give talks and explain things. When invited to speak at a club or symposium, he often declined honoraria or speaker’s fees, and when finished with his invited presentation, would happily volunteer to deliver a second or third talk. If anyone asked permission to use Bumpi’s photographs in illustrating his own talk, his invariable response was “Of course!”

Dr. Henry (Bumpi) Barwood built an enviable reputation among micromounters over a fifty-year span. He has a secure place in the Micromounters’ Hall of Fame.

