

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Horst Windisch

1932-2011

Inducted in 1991

The central figure in micromounting in South Africa, Horst Windisch was also very active in fields which include minerals, gems, geology and other hobbies in the natural sciences. He was a prime mover in many activities involving micromounting and micromounters. His activities in hobbies relating to natural history and the sciences are legion.

He organized groups in mineral, gem (lapidary) and geology pursuits and has been noteworthy for combining more than one of them to organize mineral shows, seminars, field trips and conferences.



He played a leadership role in organizing, promoting, and planning field-collecting of microminerals both in local areas and in widely separated and far distant areas. He wrote articles of educational merit, some having appeared in publications giving them wide distribution.

He also sponsored trading, in particular the trading of self-collected African minerals, with micromounters and collectors in European countries, the U.S.A., Canada, and Australia. He, more than anyone else, promoted group trading in which a group of collectors in South Africa trades self-collected minerals with similar groups in many parts of the world.

In his last Horst Windisch spearheaded a drive to establish regular lines of communication between micromounters in European, American and Australian countries and/or states, for regular exchange of knowledge of minerals, localities and personalities.

His micromount collection was strong on African minerals, especially those from South Africa and Namibia, and also from various localities in Europe and the U.S.A.