

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Paul Smith

1923-2005

Inducted in 2004

Paul Smith spent 45+ years as a mineral collector. A co-founder of the Park Forest Earth Science Club in Illinois, he served as President of the Mineralogical Society of DC for two years, and was President of the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area for four years. He was a member of six clubs in the DC area.



Paul had a collection of some 10,000 micromounts, and a collection of slides that he used when giving talks. He was a popular speaker at clubs in the DC area, and also at Wildacres, where he taught both micromounting and photomicrographic techniques. For several years, he hosted a workshop in his home, at which he carried on teaching and demonstration work. He always had material to share with others and to use for his teaching, and he wrote frequent articles for publication in the club bulletins. Paul also took microscopes, specimens, and tools to mineral shows to set up demonstration sessions.

Paul also was instrumental in uncovering species not hitherto known from a particular locality. For example, he demonstrated the presence of millerite, mcguinnessite, desautelsite and molybdenite at the Hunting Hill Quarry, Rockville, MD. He was generous with his finds, and frequently brought material for the giveaway tables at micromount symposiums.

Paul Smith spent many years promoting micromounting by his lectures, demonstrations, donations, and personal example. He showed leadership and dedication, and was considered well worthy of membership in the Micromounters Hall of Fame.