

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Margaret “Sugar” White

Inducted in 2000



Margaret “Sugar” White, a native of West Virginia, began collecting “rocks” when she was seven years old. By 1972, she had graduated to micromounts, and has not left them since, amassing an impressive collection in both number and quality. Along the way, she collected a B. Sc. in pharmacy from West Virginia University, practicing her profession in many areas with the USAF before settling in Redlands, California.

For twenty years, Sugar has been a volunteer in mineralogy and paleontology at the Earth Science Department of the San Bernardino County Museum, where she has cohosted mineral workshops, and was designated a Research Associate and elected to the Museum’s Court of Honor.

Famous for her photomicrography, Sugar has published work in many journals and won a large number of awards. Her photographs have appeared in publications such as the Australian Journal of Mineralogy, Mineralogical Record, Mineralien Welt, Rocks & Minerals, California Geology, and others, and she is a multiple winner at the annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Photo Contest.

A member of a number of mineralogical groups, among them the Southern California Micromineralogists and the Northern California Mineralogical Association (NCMA), Sugar is justly recognized by her peers as an indefatigable worker in the cause of micromounting. She has provided lectures and slide shows at the annual meetings of the groups for many years, and occupied club positions, including five years as Secretary of the NCMA.

Sugar’s reputation for generosity and helpfulness is well earned. She opens her collection to others, provides specimens where needed, and, with the help of her Burmese cats, makes her home a haven to visiting micromounters. She is truly an example for others to follow.