

Micromounters Hall of Fame

Ugo Ostan

Inducted in 2004



Ugo Ostan graduated in Geological Sciences from Modena University in 1964. A mineral collector since 1968, he has assembled a collection of over 10,000 specimens (micromounts, but also miniature and cabinet sizes) including some 2,200 specimens in his specialty of copper minerals.

Ugo is the President of Gruppo Mineralogico Cremonese - the Cremona Mineral Club which he founded in 1982 together with other fellow collectors, and which has become one of the most active clubs in Italy.

Under Ugo's guidance, the Gruppo Mineralogico Cremonese began its annual Micromounters Meeting, now in its 28th year (2004). Initially, the meeting was a local and then national event, but in 1989 it became an international event, with guests from up to eight foreign nations accounting for one third of the participants. The meeting has been improving constantly, and is now considered the most important Micromounters' convention in Europe. An article on the Cremona Micromounters Meeting was published in *Rivista Mineralogica Italiana* (2000).

Since 1984, Ugo has worked part-time in the local Natural History Museum in the cataloguing and upkeep of the collections, and has authored various booklets on mineralogy, crystallography and related subjects, to be used in the teaching activities which the Cremona Museum and the Mineral Club volunteers offer jointly to the local schools.

By creating the Cremona meeting, Ugo has played a unique role in the development of micromounting in Europe. He made it possible for collectors from several countries to get to know each other. He is a welcome member of the Micromounters Hall of Fame.