

NATIONAL ROCKHOUND & LAPIDARY HALL OF FAME

Michael (Mike) Kokinos

Inducted 2014

Minerals



Michael (Mike) Kokinos began micromounting in 1962 under the tutelage of Micromount Hall of Fame members Bob and Juanita Curtis. He was an original member of the group that became the Southern California Micro-Mineralogists, and later, a member of the group that became the Northern California Mineralogical Association (NCMA). To develop his skills, he undertook formal studies in optical mineralogy, and over the years has taught many of his colleagues in optical and other identification techniques.

In his long association with professionals in the field, Mike has been instrumental in formalizing the descriptions of new minerals and publishing the results. His work aided in having ferrierite from Agoura, California designated the type example of the species ferrierite-K, and the optical properties determined for the clinoptilolite-Na were the first modern determinations for any species of the clinoptilolite group.

At the same time, his personal ability and background in accounting have led him into leadership positions with the NCMA and other micromounting organizations. He continues to lead the NCMA Study Group after many years, and has served on the NCMA Board of Directors for a similar length of time. He was also a highly valued member of the committee charged with rewriting the by-laws of the International Federation of Micromount Societies.

With such long and distinguished service, Mike is well qualified for membership in the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame.