

History

The Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club was founded in 1964 by a group of kindred souls, each with an interest in some aspect of the hobby. Initially the Club was named "The Blue Grass Rock Club," but the word *rock* took on a different meaning over the years, and we had difficulty in explaining that our interest was other than "music." In 1980 the Club name was officially changed to "The Bluegrass Gem & Mineral Club of Central Kentucky."



The young rockhounds.

Club members and prospective members usually are highly interested in one or many of the several aspects of this growing hobby of being a "rockhound." The term "rockhound" is usually used to define a person interested in rocks. They may be interested in collecting rocks because they are attractive, have a strange shape or unusual texture, contain minerals or fossils; may be sawed and polished or they may be tools or ornaments used by the original inhabitants of this continent.



Working with metals

An avid interest in collecting rocks, as a

hobby, leads to a search for knowledge about the subject in such areas as geography, geology, mineralogy, crystallography, or paleontology. Many times this leads a rockhound into learning the lapidary arts, metal working with copper, silver and gold, faceting gem stones or collection for display purposes.



Rockhounds picnic in quarry

Each year we also hold LexGemShow a gem and mineral show with vendors from around the US. Volunteers completely run the show and it is our biggest public exposure of the year.



Field trip to Berea Museum

Visit our website at
<http://bggamc.homestead.com>



Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club

Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club Of Central Kentucky



*Serving the
Lexington Area
for over 50 years*

Meetings

Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month, except for the month when we have our annual picnic and December when we have our Holiday party and auction. Regular



Picnic at Salt Petre Cave

meetings start at 1:00 PM with a executive business meeting to which all members are invited to participate; followed by the general/educational meeting at 2:00 PM. At the general meeting, the business meeting is summarized, and full membership is asked to vote on proposals; followed by a educational presentation, the drawing for the raffle and door prize, and an auction of donated items from the members. Light refreshments are available. The meeting is concluded by 4:30 PM.

Meetings currently alternate between the community rooms of any of the local library branches.

Field Trips

Field trips are held every month except December and may involve collecting mineral specimens, artifacts, fossils, and gem stones in the rough. If winter weather is a factor, we visit museums, public displays or members' collections. In June

we hold the annual picnic and geode hunt in Danville, which is always a favorite with our younger members.



Workshop on rock tools use.

Members

Our members are the best part of our club. They volunteer to serve as officers, offer to lead field trips and give presentations for educational programs. They give of their time to ensure our annual LEXGEMSHOW is fully staffed and a great success. In return, our club offers grants to educational schools that teach classes in all the lapidary arts, metal working and jewelry making. Not the least of benefits to members is social interaction. Many members become life-long friends and share trips and knowledge of rocks and minerals.

Mission Statement

As a 501c3 organization the Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club will endeavor to further the interest and education in mineralogical sciences; the collection and preservation of minerals, fossil and gem specimens, exploration of micro minerals and the development of skills in the art of lapidary.

Application for Membership

Please Print Clearly

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____

Please print your email clearly! It's how we communicate with our members and where the newsletter is sent

Email _____

Family Members to Include in the Membership
Spouse _____

Children _____

What do you want to get from your BGGAMC membership?

What is your experience with rocks, gems, or minerals.

Our club survives because we have active members. There are many opportunities to give of your time to help us remain a viable club for the next 50 years. It might be as easy as donating some hours to our show or leading the club as an office holder.

We expect our members to volunteer.

First year family membership is \$25.00, following year's \$20.00.

Detach and mail this portion along with your check to:

Membership Chairman
800 Apache Trail
Lexington, KY 40503