## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ RENEWAL

Please print clearly.
Submit this form to the
Treasurer at the club meeting
or mail to:

BGGMC c/o Larry Mitchell 178 Freybrook Drive Richmond, KY 40475



INAITIC	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
Email (for newsletter distribution	& news updates)
Phone	
Family Members To Include In Me	embership:
Email	
Phone	
Children	
DateCash / Ch	neck / CC

Yearly membership is \$20 per family and runs January 1 through December 31. For new members who join the club from October through December, the next year's membership is included.



The Blue Grass Gem & 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." We sometimes had difficulty explaining that our interest was other than music, so in 1980, the club name officially changed to Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Club.

Club members usually are highly interested in one or more of the several aspects of this hobby of being a "rockhound." The term "rockhound" is used to define a person interested in rocks. They may be interested in collecting rocks because they are pretty, colorful, have a strange shape or unusual texture, contain minerals or fossils, may be sawed and polished, or may be tools or ornaments used by the original inhabitants of this continent. An avid interest in collecting rocks leads to a search for knowledge about the subject in such areas as geology, geography, mineralogy, crystallography, and paleontology. Many times this interest leads a rockhound into learning the arts of lapidary, metal working with copper, silver or gold, faceting gemstones, or collecting merely for display purposes.

Club meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month, except June (when our annual picnic/field trip is held), and December (when we have a dinner party and auction). We meet at various Lexington Public Library branches. Educational programs are presented, experiences and finds are shared among members, and raffles and auctions are held for donated specimens.

Field trips are held several times each year, weather permitting, and may be local collecting sites or an occasional out of state trip. Only club members may attend field trips due to insurance requirements.

In 2015, the Micromineral Group formed as a subgroup of the club. They hold day-long gatherings each month to view their treasures under microscopes.

## **Our Mission Statement:**

The Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club will endeavor to further the interest and education in mineralogical sciences; the collection and preservation of mineral, fossil, and gem specimens; and the development of skill in the art of lapidary.



